FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

13 JANUARY 1987

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi military statements broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio announced that Iraqi warplanes raided Qom, Esfahan, Dezful, Khorramabad, and Bakhtaran 13 January, asserting that this was in response to Iranian attacks, including a missile strike on Baghdad in which civilians were killed. Iran had launched the missile late 12 January in retaliation for the killing of hundreds of Iranian civilians in earlier Iraqi air and missile attacks, IRNA stated.

Iraqi air strikes 12 January had included raids on Kashan, Esfahan, Qom, Arak, Ilam, Tabriz, Dezful, and Bushehr, according to announcements carried by Voice of the Masses. Warplanes also hit three Iranian oil-pumping stations, a Hawk missile battery, and a maritime target in the Gulf. An Iraqi communique acknowledged the loss of two Iraqi planes in the 12 January raids on Iran, and an Iraqi spokesman cited by Voice of the Masses subsequently announced that Iraqi planes "challenged" Iran's antiaircraft missiles with attacks on five SAM sites 13 January.

IRNA stated that over 100 Iranian civilians were killed and over 400 were wounded in the 12 January air attacks on Iranian cities. The Iranian agency also reported that Iranian planes bombed various Iraqi cities 12 and 13 January. An Iraqi communique said that 24 Iraqi civilians were killed and 107 wounded in Iranian artillery and air attacks on Iraq 12 January. Baghdad radio's Persian service warned Iranian civilians to evacuate their cities because Iraq intends to bomb "all Iranian cities" in reprisal for Iranian attacks.

As for the military situation on the southern front, an Iraqi commander cited by Voice of the Masses said the Iranians sustained "very heavy losses" 11 January in an unsuccessful attempt to regain territory they had lost earlier. He spoke of "tens of thousands" of Iranian casualties, stating that the attacking Iranian forces are confined to a 10 sq km strip, where they are ceaselessly pounded by Iraqi artillery. The Iraqis also struck at Iranian rear positions in Khorramshahr with tactical surface-to-surface missiles 12 January, he disclosed. In contrast, IRNA claimed that Iranian forces crushed a counterattack personally directed by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. An Iranian communique broadcast by Tehran radio asserted that Iranian forces killed or wounded over 1,000 Iraqis during an advance west of Shalamcheh 12-13 January, adding that this brings total Iraqi casualties in Karbala 5 to 17,500.

In Kuwait, the daily *Al-Ra'y Al-'Amm* reported that Egypt began airlifting weapons and ammunition to Iraq over the weekend, revealing that an Egyptian military delegation visited Baghdad in connection with the airlift, according to KUNA.

Libya

Peace Call on Gulf War — Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio reported a statement by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in which the Libyan leader urged Iran and Iraq to listen to reason and stop the "madness" of the Gulf war. Wisdom must replace "mutual hysteria," which has "destroyed any bridge to the past regarding who is the transgressor and who was transgressed against."

Chad Conflict — Libyan Forces attacked Chadian and French troops 11 January at a military base in Kalait, in a French-defended sector of eastern Chad, according to a French Defense Ministry statement cited by AFP. The ministry said there were no French casualties in the Libyan attack. The report was dismissed by JANA's political commentator, who denied any Libyan role in the attack and claimed the operation was carried out by GUNT forces.

Lebanon

French journalist Roger Auque was kidnapped in West Beirut 13 January after returning from a meeting with Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite, AFP reported. Waite had arrived in the Lebanese capital the previous day seeking the release of foreign hostages, the agency noted.

The clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio disclosed that one person was killed and nine were wounded in the 12 January Israeli air raid near Sidon. Meanwhile, another landmine explosion in the south injured two IDF soldiers, according to Jerusalem radio. Regarding relations between Israel and UNIFIL, Israeli officials expressed "profound regrets" to the Irish Government over the killing of an Irish UNIFIL soldier, and they said the IDF officer responsible may be dismissed, according to AFP. However, UNIFIL spokesman Timor Goksel accused Israel and the SLA of "deliberately" firing at UNIFIL positions, the agency added.

As for the camps war, an Iranian Foreign Ministry communique broadcast by Tehran radio urged all concerned parties to respond positively to Iran's efforts to end the fighting and to pledge to implement the cease-fire plan. Members of the seven-member Arab League committee arrived in Damascus 12 January to begin mediation efforts to end the Amal-Palestinian conflict, Algiers radio noted.

Syria

Syria will participate in the upcoming ICO summit conference in Kuwait, Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam declared in a statement to the UAE's *Al-Ittihad* reported by WAKH. Damascus radio noted that Khaddam arrived in the PRC 12 January at the start of a 7-day official visit.

Jordan, Egypt

Jordan's King Husayn began official talks with French President Francois Mitterrand in Paris 12 January, Amman television reported. An AFP report on Husayn's visit indicated that he wants France and its EEC partners to persuade the United States of the need to hold an international conference on the Middle East.

In Cairo, *Al-Akhbar* expressed "strong dismay" over U.S. envoy Richard Murphy's opposition to an international conference, MENA reported, noting the paper's view that this "incomprehensible" U.S. stand "corresponds strictly" to Israel's position.

Israel

The cabinet agreed to devalue the shekel by 10 percent, increase prices of some subsidized goods, and cut the budget by around 400 million shekels, Jerusalem radio reported. The Defense Ministry budget will not be cut.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 008 *13 January 1987*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Arab Officials in Syria for Talks on Camps War *[Algiers]* ..... A 1
'Arafat To Meet With PLO Factions in Algiers *[Sanaa VOP]* ..... A 1
Meets President Bendjedid *[Algiers]* ..... A 1
Abu Mazin Warns Against Anti-'Arafat Statements *[Monte Carlo]* ..... A 1
PLO 'Fighters' Attack Israeli Camp in Hebron *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 1
Sanaa VOP Notes Israeli Raid on Maghdushah ..... A 1

OPEC AFFAIRS

GCC Ministerial Committee Issues Statement *[Riyadh]* ..... B 1
Kuwaiti Minister Interviewed on OPEC Agreement *[London AL-MAJALLAH 31 Dec]* ..... B 1

ARABIAN PENINSULA

KUWAIT

Al-Ahmad Renews Welcome of Iran to IOC Summit *[KUNA]* ..... C 1

PDRY

Press Statement on YSP Central Committee Meeting ..... C 1

EGYPT

AL-AKHBAR Expresses 'Dismay' Over U.S Position *[13 Jan]* ..... D 1
Spanish Prime Minister Arrives on 4-Day Visit ..... D 1
Official Talks Held ..... D 1
Sidqi, Gonzalez Banquet Speeches ..... D 1
Delegations Discuss Debt *[Madrid]* ..... D 2
French Trade Official Signs Protocol, Departs ..... D 2
Sudanese Industry Minister Ends Visit, Departs ..... D 3
Mubarak Telephones Saddam Husayn on Gulf War ..... D 3
Anti-Libyan Students Occupy Chadian Embassy *[AFP]* ..... D 3
Ghali Discusses Country's Role in African Issues *[AL-AKHBAR 8 Jan]* ..... D 3

IRAQ

Reports, Communique Detail Recent Fighting ..... E 1
Radio Team on War Developments ..... E 1
'Very Heavy Losses' for Iran ..... E 1
Communique No 2,524 ..... E 1
Aircraft Hit 3 Iranian Cities ..... E 2
Iranians Warned of Bombing ..... E 3
Missile Hits Residential Area ..... E 3
Qom, Esfahan, Dezful Raided ..... E 3
Planes Sink 40 Boats ..... E 3
Air Defenses Down Helicopter ..... E 3
Report From III Army Corps Area ..... E 4
Raid on Khorramabad Announced ..... E 4
Air Defenses Down Plane ..... E 4

Bakhtaran Raid Announced ..... E 4
Planes Raid Missile Batteries ..... E 5
Egyptian Interior Minister Arrives in Baghdad ..... E 5
Mahmud Confers With Badr ..... E 5
Ibrahim Meets With Badr ..... E 5
Ramadan Confers With Badr ..... E 5

JORDAN

King Husayn, Delegation Leave for France 12 Jan ..... F 1
Economic Delegation Departs ..... F 1
AL-RA'Y Comments on Trip *[12 Jan]* ..... F 1
Further Reportage on Visit *[cross-reference]* ..... F 1
Information Minister Leaves for Damascus 12 Jan ..... F 1
Iraqi President Phones Prince Hasan on War ..... F 2
Source on Possible Government Changes, PLO *['AL-HAMISHMAR 8 Jan]* ..... F 2
SAWT AL-SHA'B on U.S. 'Fragile Credibility' *[11 Jan]* ..... F 2

LEBANON

Israeli Raid Damages Palestinian Installations *[RFL]* ..... G 1
French Journalist Kidnapped After Meeting Waite *[AFP]* ..... G 1
Waite Meets Junblatt *[VOL]* ..... G 1
Group Anounces Execution of Jewish Hostage *[AFP]* ..... G 1
Threatens More Hostages *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 2
Karami on Camps War, Summit With Syria ..... G 2
Forces Commander Ja'ja' Calls for New Formula *[RFL]* ..... G 2

SYRIA

Khaddam Says Syria To Attend Islamic Summit *[WAKH]* ..... H 1
Al-Asad Receives YAR Foreign Minister, Message ..... H 1
Al-Ahmar Receives PNC Chairman, George Hawi ..... H 1
TISHRIN Predicts Failure of U.S. Mideast Moves ..... H 1
Commentary Says Lebanese Hold Key to Solution ..... H 1

ISRAEL

Reaction to U.S. Statements on Iran Affair ..... I 1
Shamir Says 'Nothing To Fear' ..... I 1
Herzog Denies Contra Link ..... I 1
Peres On McFarlane Statement ..... I 1
Sends Message to Bush ..... I 1
Wish To Avoid 'Harming' Reagan *[MA'ARIV 13 Jan]* ..... I 2
Cabinet Approves Devaluation; No Defense Cut ..... I 3
Peres: Messages From Cairo, Amman 'Significant' ..... I 3
Air Force Attacks 'Terrorist' Target in Al-Biqa' ..... I 3
IDF Kills Hizballah Member in South Lebanon ..... I 3
Lubrani Discusses Role in Lebanon, Aid to SLA ..... I 3
Italy's Forlani Meets Shamir, Concludes Visit *[ANSA]* ..... I 4
Sharon Criticizes 'Jordanization' of West Bank ..... I 4
Mayor Pursues Jordanian Contacts Despite Threats *[THE JERUSALEM POST 12 Jan]* ..... I 5
AL-TALI'AH Scores PLO-Jordanian Coordination *[8 Jan]* ..... I 5
Arab Council Heads Satisfied With Arens Meeting *[THE JERUSALEM POST 11 Jan]* ..... I 5
Spokesman Protests Al-Najah University Closure *[HA'ARETZ 11 Jan]* ..... I 6
Court Sentences Bi'r Zayt University Lecturer ..... I 6

NORTH AFRICA

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses Islamic Preachers Meeting ..... Q 1
Islamic Preachers Respond ..... Q 4
JANA Commentary Denies Attack on Kalait in Chad ..... Q 4
Al-Qadhdhafi Urges End to 'Madness' of Gulf War ..... Q 5
Al-Qadhdhafi Receives YAR Interior Minister ..... Q 5

SUDAN

Al-Hindi Meets With Libyan, Chadian Officials ..... Q 5
Foreign Minister Confers With Iran's Besharati ..... Q 5
Maltese President Arrives on Official Visit ..... Q 5
Al-Mahdi on Ties With Egypt, Southern Sudan *[Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR 9 Jan]* ..... Q 6
Official Confirms Cabinet Reshuffle 'Soon' ..... Q 8

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Rebels Say No Early Release of Italian Hostages *[ANSA]* ..... R 1
Rebels Attack Government Troops in the North *[Voice of Broad Masses]* ..... R 1

KENYA

Nairobi Paper Views Shultz Visit, African Tour *[KENYA TIMES 12 Jan]* ..... R 1

TANZANIA

Army Vows To Support Mozambican Government *[PANA]* ..... R 2

UGANDA

Museveni Receives New French, Egyptian Envoys ..... R 2
Foreign Minister Mukiibi Departs on Visit to PRC *[cross-reference]* ..... R 2

CENTRAL AFRICA

CHAD

113 Libyan Prisoners Shown to Press 13 Jan *[AFP]* ..... S 1
63 'Hope Commandos' Political Prisoners Released ..... S 1
Aurillac on France's Commitment, 'Determination' *[Libreville]* ..... S 1
GUNT's Facho Ballam Calls for Negotiation *[Libreville]* ..... S 2
FANT Commander Interviewed on Fada Fighting ..... S 2

ZAIRE

AZAP: Mobutu To Appoint New Prime Minister ..... S 4

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

Government Supports Chad's GUNT, Peace Move ..... T 1
Soviets Complete Study on Bauxite/Alumina Complex *[PANA]* ..... T 1

LIBERIA

Opposition Leader Carlon Reportedly Arrested *[AFP]* ..... T 1

MALI

PRC Begins Rehabilitation of Radio Transmitters ..... T 1

NIGERIA

DPRK Vice President Stops Over, Talks with Aikhomu ..... T 1
Information Minister Receives Iraqi Ambassador ..... T 2
Sierra Leone's Kamara Requests Technical Aid, Oil ..... T 2

SIERRA LEONE

President Momoh Extends Invitation to 'Arafat *[Sanaa VOP]* ..... T 2

TOGO

Celebration Marks Eyadema Presidency Anniversary ..... T 2
Eyadema Addresses Nation ..... T 2
Libyan Emissary Lauds Ties ..... T 3
PRC Delegation Arrives ..... T 3

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Meets GDR Commission Chairman ..... U 1
Rauchfuss Meets Ministers ..... U 1

BOTSWANA

Masire Requests Increased Assistance From West ..... U 1

MALAWI

Antigovernment Group Kills 3 Policemen in Attack *[Maputo]* ..... U 2

MOZAMBIQUE

Armed Forces Attack 'Bandit' Camp in Cuamba ..... U 2
Tanzania Pledges Assistance To Fight 'Bandits' ..... U 2
Mozambican Rebels Claim Pipeline Sabotaged *[AFP]* ..... U 2
Machungo Receives GDR Justice Minister *[ADN]* ..... U 2
Heusinger Praises Judiciary ..... U 2
Chissano Receives Heusinger ..... U 2

NAMIBIA

Ovambo Denies Plans To Break With Ruling Party *[SAPA]* ..... U 3
SWATF Kills 56 SWAPO Insurgents in Last 4 Days *[SAPA]* ..... U 3
Commentary Says SWAPO Having 'Little Success' *[Johannesburg]* ..... U 3

SOUTH AFRICA

Pik Botha on Shultz Call for Talks With ANC ..... U 4
Police Detain UDF Acting General Secretary ..... U 4
Vlok: ANC's Tambo Trying To 'Dupe' Shultz *[THE CITIZEN 12 Jan]* ..... U 4
Comments on Mandela Detention *[London THE INDEPENDENT 9 Jan]* ..... U 5
Half of Workforce at Beatrix Gold Mine Resigns ..... U 7
WEEKLY MAIL Carries 'Apartheid Barometer' *[9-15 Jan]* ..... U 7
Information Bureau Issues 12 Jan Unrest Report ..... U 8

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems ..... U 8
12 Jan Press Review ..... U 8
13 Jan Press Review ..... U 9

ZIMBABWE

Bulgaria's Karamanev Arrives With Delegation ..... U 10
Joint Commission Holds Session ..... U 11

Arab Officials in Syria for Talks on Camps War

LD130003 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] The Arab seven-man committee has started its mission to settle the camps war as stipulated by the Arab League Ministerial Council. Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, minister of foreign affairs and chairman of the committee, accompanied by Chedli Klibi, Arab League secretary general, arrived in Damascus for this purpose today.

Dr Taleb, who made a stopover in Tunis while en route to Damascus, made a statement in which he said:

The Arab Mediation Committee, which was formed by the Arab League Council with regard to the Palestinian camps in Lebanon, commences its mission by visiting Damascus. The purpose is to hold discussions with Syrian officials, primarily Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, to hear their views and experience in the situation in Lebanon with the aim of reaching an end to the fratricide around the Palestinian camps in Lebanon. He added that the committee, which starts its mission in Damascus, is confident that because of Syria's firm pan-Arab stand in the resistance against the Israeli enemy and its expansionist ambitions, the strengthening of the unity of the Arab ranks, and the unity of the militant forces in the face of Israeli aggression, Syria will spare no efforts to help the committee carry out its mission.

The aim of the mission is to spare Arab bloodshed, to end the fighting between the brothers in the one struggle, and to reach permanent solutions to this issue. Dr Taleb also said that the committee is certain that it will find in the Syrian Government all the help necessary and it expresses its hope that the Syrian president will comply with the committee's desire and thus strengthen the Arab League.

The committee members will begin their talks with the Syrian foreign minister tomorrow and will meet with President Hafiz al-Asad later.

'Arafat To Meet With PLO Factions in Algiers

JN121729 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, will begin a series of meetings with senior Algerian officials and representatives of Palestinian resistance factions in Algiers today to pave the way for a new PNC session. Brother leader Abu 'Ammar arrived in Algiers from Tunis last night on an official visit of several days.

Meets President Bendjedid

LD121926 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and FLN Party secretary general today received Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, at the Party Headquarters. They reviewed the latest developments concerning the Palestinian cause. [passage omitted]

Abu Mazin Warns Against Anti-'Arafat Statements

JN130836 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
0500 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, PLO Executive Committee member, has warned in Tunis against statements holding Yasir 'Arafat responsible for the situation in Lebanon. He said that these statements are aimed at exonerating Syria of any responsibility before the start of the Arab seven-member committee's talks in Damascus.

Responding to a statement by Mustafa Sa'd, leader of the Nasirite Popular Organization, blaming 'Arafat for the tense situation in Sidon, Abu Mazin said: The PLO comprehends the position of Mustafa Sa'd because he adopted this position under Syrian pressure.

PLO 'Fighters' Attack Israeli Camp in Hebron

JN121934 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1811 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] A military spokesman for the Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command has stated the following: Following instructions, one of our groups of fighters inside the occupied homeland yesterday launched a daring incendiary bomb attack against a camp of Zionist occupation forces in Hebron in the occupied West Bank. Several enemy soldiers were wounded and a number of military vehicles were burned. Immediately afterward, a large force from the occupation army rushed to the area, cordoned off all entrances, carried out an extensive search, and arrested a large number of Palestinian citizens on the pretext of involvement in the operation. After carrying out its combat mission, our group of fighters returned safely to base. Revolution until victory.

[Signed] The Palestinian revolution forces general command

Sanaa VOP Notes Israeli Raid on Maghdushah

JN121658 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Zionist planes raided the towns of Maghdushah east of Sidon in southern Lebanon, as well as surrounding areas, at noon today. Reports from southern Lebanon said fighter bombers fired rockets at areas in the center and the western quarter of the town and also at the Maria area near Maghdushah. This was the second aggression against Maghdushah in only 3 days.

GCC Ministerial Committee Issues Statement

LD101526 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Text] Riyadh, 10 Jan (SPA) — The Permanent Ministerial Committee for Petroleum Cooperation of the GCC has expressed its thanks and gratitude to the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud, for his personal contribution to the agreement reached by OPEC recently, which brought benefits to all. The committee affirmed its complete and continued commitment to the production and price plan approved during the recent OPEC meeting.

This was contained in the press statement issued by the committee comprising the petroleum ministers of the GCC member-countries following their emergency meeting, which ended in Riyadh today. The following is the text of the statement:

The Permanent Ministerial Committee for Petroleum Cooperation held an emergency meeting in Riyadh today 10.5.1407 of the Hegira, corresponding to AD 10 January 1987, under the chairmanship of the UAE Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, and reviewed the conditions in the world petroleum market and the developments in it since the convocation of the 80th OPEC meeting.

The committee affirmed its complete and continued adherence to the produciton and price plan approved by OPEC during the said meeting. It noted with extreme satisfaction the good offices exercised by the Sultanate of Oman with other non-OPEC oil producing countries and urged it to continue these efforts.

The committee heard a report from the Kuwaiti oil minister and and the Saudi minister of petroleum and mineral resources on the preparatory work in both countries to intensify contacts with some of the non-OPEC countries with a view to stabilizing the petroleum market. The committee affirmed the need and importance of maintaining these contacts, and indeed intensifying them, so that the efforts of all oil-producers will be pooled together to protect the market and to save it from harmful fluctuations.

The committee praised the personal contribution made by the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud toward the agreement reached by OPEC recently, which has brought good to all.

Kuwaiti Minister Interviewed on OPEC Agreement

PM130945 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic
31 Dec 86 p 11

[Interview with Kuwaiti Oil Minister 'Ali al-Khalifah al-'Adhbi by Wahib Muhammad Ghurab; date and place not given]

[Text] [Ghurab] The OPEC oil ministers' agreement reached at their recent meeting was open to many interpretations. How would you assess this agreement?

[Al-'Adhbi] I believe the conference achieved considerable success because of the GCC countries' efforts. Saudi Arabia made a big effort, as reflected in its agreement to reduce its production. Kuwait also made equal efforts in reducing its production, like the other GCC states. All the GCC countries worked together to achieve these satisfactory results.

[Ghurab] What, in your opinion, are the most outstanding successes of the recent OPEC meeting?

[Al-'Adhbi] In my view, the agreement to a fixed price and the reduction of the total production ceiling to 15.8 million barrels per day proves that OPEC has learned that reaching a stable price requires the participation of all members. This in itself is a success.

[Ghurab] Do you believe that there is a possibility of reaching a better agreement?

[Al-'Adhbi] During the recent 10-day meeting, we made great efforts to reach an agreement. Many countries responded. We, Saudi Oil Minister Hisham Nazir and I, were ready to accept the agreement even if it was signed by just 10 countries.

[Ghurab] Was disagreement on the Iraqi quota the only problem faced at the conference?

[Al-'Adhbi] There were many other problems. We made efforts to overcome them during the conference, and we succeeded.

[Ghurab] When, in your view, will you secure final agreement on production and prices?

[Al-'Adhbi] I hope this will be in the near future. The agreement we reached at our recent conference in Geneva will be implemented as of next February. It is difficult to make any hasty judgments before then.

[Ghurab] What threats to the new agreement could prevent its implementation?

[Al-'Adhbi] I believe that the main threat to the agreement is the lack of commitment of some member states to the implementation of its clauses, and the increase of production over their specified quotas. I hope this will not take place. I would like to point out clearly that the GCC states have sacrificed much to reach this and other agreements. For instance, if you take any logical quota for the GCC countries, you will find that it exceeds the quota decided at the recent conference. We preferred to sacrifice at this stage, expecting others to make similar sacrifices.

[Ghurab] But what would your position be if others did not adhere to the agreement?

[Al-'Adhbi] In that case, our position would, of course, change, but our current impression of other parties is that they are committed to the agreement and its clauses.

[Ghurab] Do we understand from this that you would not adhere to the agreement if others did not?

[Al-'Adhbi] Yes; how can we adhere to an agreement while others do not?

[Ghurab] Will you deal with the situation by calling for an extraordinary OPEC meeting?

[Al-'Adhbi] We in the GCC have never been hasty in making decisions. However, I am optimistic about others' desire to cooperate. As long as this desire exists we will continue to implement the recent agreement. If the agreement is broken, we will request an OPEC meeting, at which we will warn against the consequence of noncommitment. For our part, we will not abandon commitment to the agreement except at the last moment, when we feel that there is no response from others. This, in my view, is unlikely, because there is no reason to believe that other states will not adhere to the agreement.

[Ghurab] Do you not believe that the world oil reserves represent a problem that might obstruct implementation of the agreement?

[Al-'Adhbi] No, the reserves do not constitute a problem for us. We have managed to cut production considerably. This reduction will lead to the absorption of oil reserves during the early months of its implementation.

[Ghurab] What is the volume of oil reserves you expect to be withdrawn from the market during the next few months?

[Al-'Adhbi] I expect 250 million barrels to be withdrawn from the market in the first quarter of the new year.

[Ghurab] What lessons did you learn during the past 8 months?

[Al-'Adhbi] The past 8 months taught us that we all have to participate if we want to stabilize prices.

[Ghurab] Should we expect a new cut in production in the new year to maintain prices, or will the recent reduction be final?

[Al-'Adhbi] I do not believe that we will need to make further reductions in the production ceiling during 1987 if all member states adhere to the production ceiling and their specified quotas.

KUWAIT

Al-Ahmad Renews Welcome of Iran to IOC Summit

LD101505 Kuwait KUNA in English 1236 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 10 (KUNA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad Saturday stated that the message sent recently by the Foreign Ministry to secretary general of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC), Sharifuddin Pirzada was in reply to the note sent by Iran to the OIC chief.

The official added that the message explained in extensive detail Kuwait's stance from the Iranian note and renewed welcome of the Iran Islamic Republic's participation in the fifth Islamic summit in Kuwait, January 26.

Meanwhile, Shaykh Sabah announced that OIC secretary Sharifuddin Pirzada would arrive in Kuwait on January 13th instead of tomorrow Sunday, as originally scheduled.

During his stay here, Pirzada will have talks with senior Kuwaiti officials and get acquainted with final preparations taken by Kuwait to host the summit, less than two weeks before convocation and 10 days before the preparatory foreign ministerial conference which will draw the summit's agenda.

Shaykh Sabah, on the other hand, met today with U.S. Senate member, Senator Arlen Specter in the presence of U.S. ambassador here Anthony Quainton for a discussion of bilateral relations and developments in the area.

Senator Specter is here as part of a tour in a number of Arab countries.

PDRY

Press Statement on YSP Central Committee Meeting

EA102137 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 9 Jan 87

[Text] Here is a press statement on the work of the seventh regular session of the YSP Central Committee, held from 6 to 8 January 1987.

The YSP Central Committee held its seventh regular session from 6 to 8 January 1987 under the chairmanship of Comrade 'Ali Salim al-Bid, Central Committee secretary general. The Central Committee devoted this session to an assessment of the implementation of planned tasks by different party and state organizations during 1986. It also charted the fundamental guidelines and directives for higher leadership bodies during 1987.

This session was especially significant because it took place shortly before the 1st anniversary of the foiling of the 13 January bloody coup conspiracy, conceived and executed by the rightist opportunist trend under the leadership of the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, which aimed to attack the YSP, replace it with an autocracy, and deviate from the socialist course.

The Central Committee expressed high appreciation of the great achievements scored as a result of the activity and work of the party and mass organizations and government institutions, as well as the initiative of citizens, in eliminating the material and spiritual damage caused by the 13 January bloody conspiracy and in rebuilding the capital and resuming progress in line with the country's economic capabilities.

As a result of its evaluation of work done by all party and state organizations during the past year, 1986, the Central Committee notes that our party succeeded in directing the energies of the workers and toilers and in taking correct measures to carry out pressing tasks facing the party and people following the great victory over the 13 January bloody conspiracy.

Levels of work and production have increased. Party organizations that were undermined during the conspiracy and the deviationist practices which preceded it have been reconstituted in the governorates of Aden, Abyan, and Shabwah. Congresses of mass organizations have been held. A general amnesty has been announced and now extended to this July. The second round of elections for the Supreme People's Council and the fourth round of elections for the local people's councils in all the governorates of the Republic have been held successfully. The necessary measures have also been taken to resettle returnees in terms of the general amnesty. The majority of detainees involved in incidents resulting from the conspiracy have been released. Care has been taken of all the families of martyrs, the dead and the people who were wounded and disabled as a result of those painful events.

Those successes substantiate our party's ability to confront challenges, and reveal the strength of its links with the masses and the correctness of its policy and resolutions deriving from its class and ideological methods guided by scientific socialism. All those great successes, achieved as a result of the work and actions of our party and people during 1986, had a great and positive impact on the development of the party's internal life, our improving economic conditions, strengthening national unity, entrenching the pillars of the national democratic system in our country and the increasing participation of the toiling masses in the management of social affairs.

Internal Conditions

In its study of internal conditions, the Central Committee devoted particular attention to the issue of reinforcing and developing the joint unionist efforts of the leaderships of the two parts of the homeland toward preserving the peaceful atmosphere in the Yemeni arena and taking further unificatory steps serving the Yemeni people's struggle toward reestablishing the human and territorial unity of the homeland on democratic principles and by peaceful means.

The Central Committee stressed the importance of continuing the joint work of the leaderships of the two parts in the field, emphasizing the vital importance of activating unionist organs and institutions and of maintaining and developing the unionist achievements realized in the framework of the joint work done

on forming the basis for economic integration, trade, reinforcement of political coordination between the two parts, and securing the movement of the citizens, inasmuch as all these serve to promote further unificatory measures and results, such as contributions toward entrenching the bases for realization of the anticipated unity and for consolidating the climate of democracy and peace essential for the achievement of unity.

In the framework of its discussion of the party's internal life, the Central Committee expressed satisfaction over the qualitative development achieved in the field of party organization as a result of persistent efforts to promote the party's efficiency and organizational work, the leading role of the party in the state and society, and the optimal implementation of the resolutions of the party's higher leading organs.

The Central Committee noted that the developments affecting the manner, style, and form of party organizational work epitomized the essence of the activity of the party's organizations in all the governorates and the Armed Forces during 1986. This contributed toward reinforcing the role and activity of the party organizations in the work of solving the various basic questions affecting the life of the party and society and enhanced party activity among the masses. In this respect, the Central Committee highly commended the work carried out in the field of control and follow-up of the resolutions of the party's higher leading organs; the care taken in announcing the results of the meetings of the party's higher leading organs; their resolutions on the life of the party and society; the subsequent rapid delivery of information to the members of the party and the masses; and the efficient persual and implementation of the issues and tasks decided on by party organs. The Central Committee stressed the need to continue working in this manner and to develop the work further.

The Central Committee noted substantial improvement in the party's class structure following the purge of suspect elements that had infiltrated into the party's internal life during the period of the hegemony of the opportunist rightist tendency.

It emphasized the importance of devoting greater attention to the party's tasks of reinforcing the role of workers concerned with material production in the life of the party; enhancing working womens' contributions to party action; consolidating the party's militant class character and the pillars of its ideological, organizational, and political unity; and entrenching the party's relationship with the masses and the revolutionary traditions it acquired during its long militant struggle march.

Evaluating the work of the party control committees and the extent of their implementation of the plans for 1986, the Central Committee stressed the need for the work of these committees to be afforded more attention from the party's institutions toward reinforcing the effectivenes of such work in developing the party's internal life, strengthening party discipline and extending the responsibility of the party cadres. In this respect, the Central Committee stressed that leading members of basic organizations must enhance their role in acting to strengthen the organizational and ideological situation and to perform economic tasks in the governmental establishments, institutions, and organs more efficiently.

The Central Committee also studied the results of the work of higher party control committees and of the party control committees in the governorates and the Armed Forces and the [words indistinct] resolving the positions of those involved in the bloody incidents of 13 January. It highly commended the efforts made to [words indistinct] serious and principled evaluation of those positions on the basis of the Political Bureau charter in this respect and on the party's principles and internal regulations in a manner conducive to the preservation of the unity, good name, and constant elevation of the party's leading role within the state and society. The Central Committee stressed the importance of strengthening the role and effectiveness of party control in the internal life of the party and of promoting the performance of party tasks as laid down by the party's internal regulations.

During the session, the control committee studied guidelines for enhancing party control at all levels and the role of the basic organizations precisely as laid down by Article 62 of the internal regulations. It adopted measures needed to achieve the qualitative promotion of party control in accordance with the party's internal regulations.

The Central Committee also studied the party's activities in the ideological field. It expressed satisfaction at the steps taken to improve the party's indoctrination [tathqif] system. It stressed the need to reinforce the system; to enforce strict discipline; to conduct indoctrination meetings like party meetings; to provide the necessary resources for the purchase of books, magazines, and newspapers; and to train the basis organizations and the political propagandists [al-duat al-siyasiyan] in a manner conducive to bringing about the strengthening of the party indoctrination system. In this respect, the Central Committee commended the attention paid by the Ideological Department of the Central Committee Secretariat to following up the implementation of the training programs, assessing their results, and developing the leading party cadres in the basic organizations and the leading organs in the districts, provinces, and governorates.

The Central Committee also emphasized the importance of the creative application of the information policy as approved by the party for observance by the mass media in a manner guaranteeing the integrity of the latter and insulating it from deviations from its essential tasks, such as campaigning, drum-beating, and making propaganda to glorify or arouse personal loyalty to individuals, or distorting facts regarding the party and state.

The Central Committee stressed that the mass media must be truthful, tell the masses the truth, express creativity in factual and spiritual productions, exercise objective criticism divorced from provocation, deepen the unity of the people, and strengthen [word indistinct] of the masses around the party.

The Issue of the Economy

In the course of its study of internal conditions, the Central Committee devoted much of its time to discussing a number of reports and issues related to the economic life of society and ways of developing the national economy to improve the material and spiritual living standards of the citizens. The Central Committee approved the (?major) indices of the 2d year of the 3d 5-year plan for economic and social development, the national development budget, and the external trade plan. The Central Committee

highly commended the government's efforts in preparing these indices and stressed the need for further efforts and persistent work by all party and government organs toward making those indices produce substantial results by concentrating on increased production, conscientious work, and the battle against all negative factors and shortcomings obstructing the execution of these tasks.

This must be done in such a manner as to ensure the rectification of all the distortions affecting the economic and financial conditions of the several institutions damaged by the wrong policies pursued by the opportunist rightists with the aim of exhausting the national economy and dissipating its resources outside the framework of priorities [words indistinct] and constantly incurring increased expenditure incompatible with state resources and developmental requirements.

The Central Committee noted that financial affairs must attract the attention and care of all party organizations and government institutions to increase resources, rationalize public and private spending, and bring about the adoption of the necessary measures and arrangements to contain deficits. In this regard, the Central Committee stressed the great importance of strictly applying the measures the government adopted to rationalize expenditure, curtail fuel and energy consumption, rationalize imports and consumption, and organize supplies.

The committee also commended all the efforts made during 1986 toward repairing the damage done to the national economy by the conspiracy and compensating the families whose property suffered due to the looting of the assets and funds of institutions, state farms and cooperatives, and the decline of production incurred as a result of that looting.

Having studied all the tasks performed in 1986, the Central Committee stressed the need to rearrange the priorities of the party's forthcoming economic struggle by firmly linking economic decisions with their class and political content and moving the party's struggle into the heart of economic life. Party and government institutions are, therefore, required during the coming period to define the tasks indicated by the Central Committee by drafting a comprehensive economic and material reform program in line with the principles adopted by the Political Bureau in July 1986 with the aim of reconciling expenditure and resources and preventing further imbalances and distortions in the economic and financial fields by applying strict measures and arrangements to control public and private expenditure and contain the deficit.

In this respect, the Central Committee stressed the great importance of stepping up productivity, heightening awareness about public ownership, mobilizing all fiscal and material resources, reinforcing the role and effectiveness of the state and cooperative sectors, and ensuring the optimal application of the funds of these two sectors' institutions and correcting the conditions in them.

The Central Committee also emphasized the importance of directing immediate attention to [word indistinct] care for the productive sectors: drawing up [word indistinct] programs to increase a number of crops; enhancing the role of the party organizations in the governorates and their supervision of economic, financial, and productive institutions; reviewing the conditions of the agricultural and fish cooperatives; and paying greater attention to the state, solving the financial problems and creating conditions for the development of craft cooperatives. In this respect, the Central Committee stressed the need to deepen the democratic content of cooperative action, to promote in the ranks of cooperative producers, and to remove the complexities affecting the management of the cooperatives.

The Central Committee noted that the implementation of all the vital economic tasks set by the party required first and foremost the wise and active participation of the toiling masses, upon whose work, action, and initiative our success in achieving those tasks depends. This fact served to charge the party and mass organizations with the prime duty of working with the masses, organizing their initiatives and creativity, directing their creative energies, securing their participation in carrying out the most urgent economic tasks, and exercising people's control at the executive level.

During its discussion of the urgent economic questions, the Central Committee also paid great attention to the application of human resources. It commended the government's efforts to resolve the difficulties affecting this sector during the past years and its hard work to provide jobs for the youth of both sexes and to redeploy manpower to reinforce the productive sectors. In this respect, the Central Committee noted the need to pay more attention to expatriate Yemenis by linking them with the homeland to enhance their participation in the process of construction. It also noted the need for greater encouragement of private production in some economic fields under the party's economic policy in such a way as to discourage parasitic activities undermining the social foundations of our national and democratic regime.

The session considered the current Arab and international situation, the recent changes in the Arab region and the international situation in general. The Central Committee's discussion centered on the escalation of the conspiratorial designs and the aggressive policies of the imperialist circles and their props which aim at further exacerbating current international problems and undermining all the objectives aimed at maintaining world peace, security, and stability. In this respect, the Central Committee expressed concern over the escalation of the aggressive tendencies and suspect moves of U.S. imperialism in our Arab region aimed at heightening tension, complicating the situation in the Middle East, and nurturing the Iraq-Iran war with the aims of expanding the scope of the war and ensuring its continuation.

The Central Committee reiterated Democratic Yemen's consistent and principled attitude toward this hopeless war, stressing that the interest of all nations and the countries in the region, including the two warring sides, lies in the immediate end of this war, whose continuation serves the goals of none other than the imperialists and their militaristic and monopolistic establishments. The war is the source of numerous dangers for the peoples of this region, including the potential for direct imperialist military intervention and threats to the security, stability, and sovereignty of this area. The war is consuming the wealth and resources of the region.

The Central Committee appealed to the warring sides to seek a solution to their existing problems by peaceful means in such a way as to ensure the rights of both and channel all their material, human, and military energies into confronting their principal enemy --imperialism-Zionism.

The Central Committee also discussed the imperialist-Zionist designs against the Arab region as manifested by the aggressive campaign against the Arab peoples and their fateful causes, first and foremost that of the Palestinian people, who are struggling for their legitimate and inalienable national rights, including those of return, self-determination, and the establishment of their independent national state on their national soil under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, whom the imperialist and Zionist forces are attempting to wipe off the political map as a step toward introducing separate and capitulatory solutions. In this connection, the Central Committee stressed our party's consistent and principled opposition to all the schemes and designs aimed at damaging our fateful Arab causes and imposing imperialist-Zionist hegemony over the entire Arab region.

The Central Committee believes that resistance to the imperialist-Zionist conspiracies aimed against the Arab national liberation movement and Arab progressive regimes and applying capitulatory solutions and schemes requires the concentration of the unity of these forces in an Arab front opposed to imperialism and Zionism. There should be urgent work to regain the unity of the PLO as a prerequisite for the mobilization of the energies and abilities of our Arab peoples in their struggle against the imperialist-Zionist alliance.

The Central Committee considered with much concern the developments in the current war against the Palestinian camps in Lebanon. It is of the view that this war will not, in the final analysis, serve the interests of anyone except the common enemy of the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples; namely, imperialism-Zionism. The Central Committee appeals to all to end this fratricidal war so as to promote their national causes and to direct their common struggle against the imperialist-Zionist enemy.

The Central Committee is of the view that the creation of centers of tension in different parts of the world and the escalation of imperialist aggression in our Arab region in particular are part of a comprehensive international design aimed at destabilizing and undermining security and the props of internationl peace, as well as escalating the nuclear race and destroying all the principles of coexistence and international detente.

In this respect, the Central Committee expresses its full support for the peace policy pursued by the USSR and the other countries of the socialist community in confronting the provocative actions of the United States and its allies. It highly rates the numerous Soviet peace proposals and initiatives aimed at ending the arms race and at nuclear disarmament and regards them as a sincere expression of the will, good intentions, and noble goals of the forces of peace and socialism, as well as their firm determination to maintain world peace and secure humanity from the dangers of a destructive nuclear disaster which will destroy mankind and human civilization.

With regard to our party's foreign activities, the Central Committee highly commended the outcome of the recent visit of Comrade 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, at the head of a high-level party delegation, to the Socialist Republic of Ethiopia, which embodied the depth of the comradely relations linking our country with Socialist Ethiopia. The Central Committee stressed the need to strengthen the efforts to effect the development of these relations in the service of the common goals of the two friendly countries and toward increasing their contributions to the struggle against the imperialists and their puppet props.

With regard to political activity in the international field and political moves with other countries, the Central Committee highly commended the outcome of our delegation's participation at the Nonaligned Movement summit in Harare under the leadership of comrade member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the presidium of the People's Supreme Council, who met and held talks with many leaders of the fraternal and friendly countries taking part in that conference, as well as his official visits to Syria and Algeria and the neighboring countries.

The Central Committee stressed the importance of further efforts toward developing relations with the fraternal countries toward strengthening anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist Arab solidarity, in addition to strengthening our country's role in the Nonaligned Movement.

The Central Committee also considered the outcome of our party's participation under the leadership of the comrade member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee in the celebrations of the 5th anniversary of the founding of the Sandinist front and the 10th anniversary of the death of its founder, Carlos Fonseca, and his talks with the Nicaraguan leaders, as well as his visit to the Socialist Republic of Cuba. The Central Committee evaluated the outcome of our party delegation's meetings and talks with the leadership of the two friendly countries on different issues of common interest and bilateral relations and ways of strengthening and developing them.

The Central Committee also evaluated the outcome of the participation of our party's delegation in the congress of the Vietnamese Communist Party under the leadership of the comrade candidate member of the Political Bureau and first secretary of the party organization in the Lahj Governorate, as well as the congress of the Cypriot workers, AKEL, under the leadership of the comrade chairman of the Central Audit Committee.

The Central Committee expressed satisfaction at the tangible activities of the Political Bureau within the framework of the efforts being made to reunite the factions of the Palestinian revolution through the dialogues it engaged in with the leaders of the factions. It stressed the need to continue and develop these efforts.

The Central Committee highly commended the political activities of the Yemeni Council for Peace and Solidarity and the other mass and creative organizations for the purpose of strengthening relations with the regional and international progressive organizations, which strengthened and expanded the international cam-

paign of solidarity with our country and our national democratic regime.

In this connection, the Central Committee evaluated the stand of the international organizations which held their meetings in our country and which expressed their principled attitudes in the statements issued by their conferences, clearly condemning the 13 January conspiracy and the foreign conspiracies against the national democratic regime of our country. They also stressed their unlimited solidarity with the struggle of our party and our country against the various internal and external conspiracies opposed to the socialist course.

The seventh session of the Central Committee was characterized by the importance of its agenda and the vitality of its discussions and decisions.

The Central Committee calls on all the party organizations, government institutions, mass groupings and the masses to make the maximum efforts and mobilize all their energies and abilities toward performing the tasks charted by this session and to ensure their creative application.

As it concludes its seventh regular session, the Central Committee warmly salutes the efforts of all party members and the masses in implementing the tasks and duties confronting our party and people last year, culminating in successes in eliminating the aftermath of the conspiracy and assuring the revitalized forward march of the revolution from one victory to the next. The Central Committee also salutes the role and activity of the heroes of the Armed Forces and the people's police, the state security and the people's militia who crowned their great contribution in destroying the 13 January conspiracy with their even greater contribution in protecting the sovereignty and security of the homeland and the citizens and remaining highly vigilant in the face of the class enemy and watchful over the gains of the revolution.

We are required to make 1987 a year for the maintenance and development of the victories and gains achieved by our party and people in 1986 and to achieve further victories on the road of the party, the road of the people, the road of defending the Yemeni revolution in the implementation of the 5-year plan and the achievement of Yemeni unity.

Brothers, that was the press communique on the proceedings of the seventh regular session of the YSP held from 6 to 8 January 1987.

AL-AKHBAR Expresses 'Dismay' Over U.S Position

NC130713 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0630 GMT
13 Jan 87

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jan (MENA) — *Al-Akhbar* has expressed strong dismay over the position reiterated by U.S. envoy Richard Murphy, during his tour of the area, in opposition to an international conference on peace in the Middle East, on the grounds that the conference could not achieve the desired objectives as effectively as direct negotiations would. The paper says the U.S. point of view strictly corresponds to the position taken by Israel, which also has rejected such a conference.

In today's edition, the paper writes that the U.S. Administration's decision to maintain this position is incomprehensible, as it is fully aware there is nearly an international consensus on the need for an international peace conference. The U.S. Administration is also aware that Egypt and Jordan, both original parties to the Middle East conflict, believe in the need for such a conference.

Al-Akhbar writes: We were expecting the U.S. Administration to try to obtain Israel's approval for an international conference. What actually happened during Murphy's tour was very "disappointing."

The paper stressed that only by taking a positive stand on the international conference issue may the United States rectify the wrong it has done to itself in the first place and to the moderate Arab countries in the second place, through its secret arms deal with Iran, which caused considerable damage to Washington's credibility in the Middle East.

Spanish Prime Minister Arrives on 4-Day Visit

NC121304 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1220 GMT
12 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 12 Jan (MENA) — Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez arrived in Cairo from Tunisia this afternoon, beginning an official 4-day visit to Egypt.

Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi received the Spanish guest at the airport. [passage omitted]

Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi said following the two-hour round of talks with visiting Spanish Premier Felipe Gonzalez that they reviewed bilateral relations, particularly in political, economic and cultural domains, as well as the issues related to the Palestinian problem, European security, and international and Mediterranean issues.

Dr. Sidqi paid tribute to Spain for its supportive stance towards Egypt at international financial institutions, especially the International Monetary Fund. Spain is adopting this stand in good faith, he added.

The Spanish premier in his turn said he is confident that Egypt would manage to overcome its economic problem. He affirmed that his country would intensify its economic cooperation with Egypt in the coming stage.

Commenting on tonight's round of talks which dealt in part with the Palestinian issue, he pointed out that the situation in the Middle East requires the initiation of a dialogue towards a just and overall solution. This dialogue has already begun since the Venice Declaration by the European Economic Community.

He indicated his country's preparedness to endeavour to give an impetus to this dialogue at both the European and Arab levels.

He hoped cooperation between Egypt and Spain would lead to a comprehensive solution to the Middle East issue and reiterated in this respect Spain's backing of the idea of an international peace conference on the Middle East.

Official Talks Held

NC121855 Cairo MENA in English 1837 GMT
12 Jan 87

[Text] Cairo, Jan. 22 (MENA) — Official talks began here tonight at the Cabinet premises between Egypt and Spain under Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi and visiting Spanish Premier Felipe Gonzalez .

The talks were attended on the Egyptian side by Deputy Premierand Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, Deputy Premier and Minister of Planning Dr. Kamal al-Janzuri, Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade Dr. Yusri Mustafa, and Minister of Culture Dr. Ahmad Haykal, who is also the head of the mission of honour accompanying the Spanish guest.

The two countries' prime ministers had held a 30-minute tete a tete prior to the enlarged session of talks.

Sidqi, Gonzalez Banquet Speeches

NC130505 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2215 GMT
12 Jan 87

[Text] Cairo, 12 Jan (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi has hosted a banquet in honor of Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez and the members of his delegation.

In a speech marking the occasion, Prime Minister Sidqi praised Spain's firm position on the achievement of a peaceful settlement in the Middle East through an international conference. Such a gathering would allow the parties concerned to reach a just and lasting solution. This is particularly true of the Palestinian issue, which is the very core of the Arab-Israeli conflict. He noted that Europe has an effective part to play here, and explained that the conclusion of such a settlement would be the proper gateway to security and stability in the area, and in the world as a whole.

The prime minister added that the phenomenon of international terrorism dictates a collective international position — something which president Mubarak called for at his meeting with members of the European Parliament in January 1986. At that point, the president urged that terrorism itself be uprooted, as superficial remedies have been shown only to increase its danger.

Dr Sidqi declared: We look forward to a coordination of our two countries' positions internationally to stop the Iraq-Iran war, which is draining the [words indistinct] resources without any justification, and has had a serious impact on the region and on global peace and security.

He praised Madrid's constructive stand concerning the establishment of just relations between North and South, which would enable the Third World to face the challenges of development and progress.

The prime minister voiced Egypt's appreciation for Spain's opposition to South Africa's policy of racial discrimination. He said Namibian independence is a matter that brooks no further delay or bargaining.

Dr Sidqi concluded his remarks by noting: We look forward to strengthening our bilateral ties and deepening our economic collaboration in (?commerce) and tourism. Greater cultural cooperation would also increase understanding between our two peoples.

Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez replied with a speech expressing thanks for the warm hospitality accorded him since his arrival. He said he was honored to be the first Spanish prime minister to pay an official visit to Egypt.

Gonzalez lauded the excellent relations linking the two countries, which reached a climax with the Spanish royal couple's trip to Egypt, and President Mubarak's visit to Madrid in 1985.

He affirmed Spain stands beside Egypt under today's delicate circumstances. This is part of its fruitful relations with Egypt, which occupies a basic political and geographic position in the Middle East.

He highlighted his country's appreciation of Egypt's efforts in defense of Arab causes. He explained that Spain follows with interest the work of President Mubarak and the Egyptian people in their search for peace by calling for an international conference that will create a suitable climate for the achievement of a just, comprehensive, and lasting settlement.

The Spanish prime minister referred to his country's support for the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, for Israel's withdrawal from the territories it has occupied since 1967, and for an international conference with the participation of all parties, including the PLO. It backs the idea on the condition that it be done in accordance with an agreement in principle on the basic tenets and objectives among all concerned.

Felipe Gonzalez pointed out that Spain's accession to full membership in the EEC had afforded it a basis to broaden its activities designed to bring about a qualitative leap in relations between West Europe and the Mediterranean states, to promote a dialogue between those along the two shores of the Mediterranean, and to establish a framework for regional security and cooperation in light of international developments.

He closed by stating Spain's solidarity with Egypt in its efforts for peace, democracy, and progress, and its support for Egypt as it works to surmount its temporary economic difficulties. He also emphasized that his country backs Egypt in the world's financial institutions.

Delegations Discuss Debt

LD130948 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1900 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Felipe Gonzalez is now in Egypt and presently dining with Egyptian Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi. The two delegations met earlier and discussed, among other things, Egypt's debt to Spain. Juan Manuel Fernandez Cuesta is in Cairo;

[Fernandez Cuesta] The official dinner hosted here in Cairo by Egyptian Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi for the Spanish prime minister started a short time ago. Felipe Gonzalez arrived in Cairo early this afternoon and was met at the airport by his Egyptian counterpart. As soon as he set foot in Egypt he had tea in the VIP lounge, where he talked with the Egyptian prime minister for a few minutes.

Afterward, the Spanish prime minister laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and at Al-Sadat's tomb, which is just a few meters from the spot where former President Anwar al-Sadat was machine-gunned by a group of national extremists in October 1981. The two heads of government then had a private meeting before heading the first meeting between the two delegations.

The issue of most interest at that meeting was the major debt owed to Spain by Egypt. Spain is Egypt's (?sixth) largest creditor. Egypt's total foreign debt is estimated at $36 billion and of that, Egypt owes Spain a total of $1.511 billion, of which $240 million has gone unpaid after loan terms expired. The origins of Egypt's debt to Spain are to be found in the sale of military materiel in 1981 and 1982. The Spanish delegation has undertaken to back any initiative which may make possible a solution to the serous problem of Egypt's foreign debt in both the IMF and in the other international fora. The problem can only be resolved in this multilateral sphere because Egypt does not negotiate its debt country-by-country, but jointly with all its creditors.

French Trade Official Signs Protocol, Departs

NC121639 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1615 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Cairo, 12 Jan (MENA) — Michel Noir, French minister delegate for foreign trade, left Cairo for home today after a 3-day visit, which included a meeting with President Husni Mubarak.

During his stay in Egypt, the French official was received by Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi, and signed a cooperation protocol covering bilateral trade.

Noir was seen off at the airport by Majdi 'Abd al-Jawad, under secretary at the Ministry of Supply, and French Ambassador Pierre Hunt.

Sudanese Industry Minister Ends Visit, Departs
NC122241 Cairo MENA in English 2155 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Cairo, Jan 12 (MENA) — Sudanese Minister of Industry Mubarak 'Abdallah al-Fadil al-Mahdi left here tonight at the end of an official week-long visit during which he signed a protocol on technical and industrial cooperation between Egypt and Sudan.

Minister of Industry Eng. Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahhab saw him off.

Mubarak Telephones Saddam Husayn on Gulf War
NC121250 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1210 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Cairo, 12 Jan (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has telephoned Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to receive assurances about the situation along the front.

The Iraqi president assured President Mubarak that the military situation along the Iraq-Iran front is good.

Anti-Libyan Students Occupy Chadian Embassy
NC121809 Paris AFP in English 1754 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Cairo, Jan 12 (AFP) — About 100 Chadian students occupied Chad's embassy in Cairo on Monday in a demonstration against the presence of Libyan troops in northern Chad.

The students said they supported both the government of President Hissein Habre and opposition leader Goukouni Oueddei, who was reportedly arrested by authorities in Tripoli after publicly coming out in support of Mr. Habre last October.

Mr. Goukouni, a former president, has since modified his stand, proclaiming himself the legitimate leader of Chad and calling for an end to the fighting and all-party talks in his country.

A statement released by the demonstrators in Cairo called for the "total withdrawal of Libyan troops from Chad" and the "immediate release" of Mr. Goukouni by Libyan authorities.

About 450 Chadian students are currently enrolled in Egyptian universities, diplomatic sources here said.

Ghali Discusses Country's Role in African Issues
JN121017 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic8 Jan 87 p 4

[Excerpts] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has declared that Egypt plays an important, peaceful role in the African arena to solve disputes between the states of the Continent.

He said: We oppose the Libyan aggression on Chad and we support the legitimate government of President Habre.

In a exclusive interview with *Al-Akhbar* on last year's harvest of Egyptian diplomacy in Africa, Dr Ghali added: Egypt is completely linked with African security, which is why Egyptian moves in the African arena are continuous and financially costly.

He affirmed that his frequent African trips, which numbered 50 since he assumed his present post, were all in the interest of the Egyptian presence in Africa and also in the interest of Egypt's and the Continent's future. [passage omitted]

Question: Africa still suffers from disputes and differences between many of its states. In some cases, these disputes and differences have developed into armed conflict. What is Egypt's position on these disputes?

Answer: We call for the necessity to resort to peaceful solutions of these disputes within an African context in accordance with the OAU Charter and to avoid outside interferences which only further complicate matters and turn local disputes into cold war disputes.

Egyptian diplomacy plays an effective, peaceful role whenever possible to encourage dialogue and negotiation in solving disputes between African states. It has played this role in the Horn of Africa, in Sudan, and in the dispute between Mali and Burkina Faso.

Question: What about Chad where fighting has turned serious in the past few weeks?

Answer: It is regrettable indeed to see Libya, which itself has suffered throughout its history from the yoke of imperialism and foreign interference, trying to establish its influence, domination, and imperialism today on a fraternal African state and to seek to seize a part of its territory and to interfere in its internal affairs so blatantly. The masks have fallen to clearly disprove the claim that the dispute in Chad is a civil war between two warring Chadian wings. The savage fighting going on today in northern Chad is between regular Libyan forces and the national Chadian forces. This fact cannot be denied by anyone. We are against military occupation and interference in other people's internal affairs and we acknowledge the Chadian Government's right to use every means to liberate its country and guarantee Chad's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence.

Question: But it seems the action taken by President Habre's forces in crossing latitude 16 has led to the outbreak of the fighting.

Answer: Chad's sovereignty extends to every part of its country both south and north of that imaginary line which does not constitute a limit to that sovereignty. The outbreak of the fighting is due to the fact that the Chadian Government forces and the other national Chadian forces have united to expel the Libyan occupation forces and to liberate the homeland together. This has led to the dispatch of Libyan forces and to the use of missiles, planes, and other modern weapons by Libya against the Chadian nationalists.

Question: Where is Sudan in the Egyptian diplomatic move in Africa?

Answer: Sudan for us is not merely an Arab or African country, but it also is a cultural extension of Egypt southward; it is the Nile Valley and the historical and geographic connection.

I would like to refer to our constant concern about coordination between Egyptian diplomacy and Sudanese diplomacy in the African Continent, be it through the Andugu Group which comprises the Nile Basin states, or on the bilateral level. I am always eager to meet with the heads of the Sudanese delegations before and during the African conferences for consultations and cooperation. For instance, I have met with Hasan Taj al-Din, a Sudanese State Council member, in Lome in the past few months. I also met with Sudanese Foreign Minister Al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi several times in Addis Ababa and Brazaville. The Egyptian diplomatic missions in all the African capitals are instructed to cooperate with the Sudanese missions.

When I visit any African capital, I always meet with the Sudanese ambassador there to ask him to inform his government about the objectives, dimensions, and results of the Egyptian move.

Question: What are the dimensions of the Egyptian diplomatic move in Africa in the new year?

Answer: We have drawn up a well-defined plan after studying and analyzing the changes, constants, political and economic circumstances, and international developments. This plan is based on the following:

1. Enhancing Egypt's relationship with the various African countries.

2. Concentrating on increasing trade exchange between Egypt and these countries through equivalent deals, opening new markets for our produce, and giving special priority for purchasing food and basic commodities from the African countries.

3. Increasing the number of Egyptian experts in various African countries.

4. Encouraging the Egyptian private sector to invest its funds and expertise in Africa through land reclamation projects — in Somalia and Zaire for example; tourist and hotel projects — in Burundi for example; or trade enterprises, consultative offices, and general trading — in Congo and Zaire.

5. Giving special attention to the Nile Basin countries due to their interrelating interests with Egypt. These countries are Sudan, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Kenya, Zaire, Rwanda, and Burundi.

6. Focusing on transferring the advanced Egyptian technology to the continent through the Egyptian institutions, training seminars, and Egyptian vocational centers and working to make Cairo a cultural and educational source for the entire continent, as well as an axis for African solidarity and cooperation.

Reports, Communique Detail Recent Fighting

Radio Team on War Developments

JN121322 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1142 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Baghdad radio team dispatch from the III Army Corps sector — live]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, the radio team once again greets you from the Muhammad al-Qasim Forces operations front in the heroic III Army Corps sector and brings you the following dispatch:

The radio team this morning observed the heroic advance of our victorious troops on all front axes toward the targets defined by the field headquarters. The radio team also saw smoke covering the battlefield behind the enemy lines. Our heroic fighter plane and helicpter heroes turned the enemy ammunition dumps and vehicles into ashes. Meanwhile, the ground units of the armored and infantry formations advanced to contain what is left of the enemy force in the water crossing which became a new cemetery for the invaders.

At a field meeting with the commander of the heroic Muhammad al-Qasim Forces that was attended by a number of journalists and photographers, the commander noted the bravery of the fighters and how they carried out their heroic missions which began early this morning. The commander affirmed that our battle at this axis will be decided by defeating the Iranian enemy and by inflicting new losses on its scoundrels which were pushed in to the Iraqi crematories. He said: Let our people rejoice because victory is very close.

The radio recorded the following statement by the commander of the Muhammad al-Qasim Forces:

[Begin recording] [Words indistinct] The result will certainly be in favor of our units. It is now considered decided because the enemy has completely failed to achieve any of its objectives. The Muhammad al-Qasim Forces pledge to Iraq, the Iraqis, and leader Saddam Husayn that they will not allow those covetous invaders to desecrate any piece of our chaste territory. The result will be in our favor and the enemy will be defeated. Thank you. [end recording]

Our units are transferring light and medium weapons as well as a number of the enemy armored vehicles left behind when the enemy fled. The engines of these vehicles are still operating normally. Our heroes from President Saddam Husayn's soldiers operated these vehicles and directed their guns at the Khomeynite scoundrels. Our greetings. We will supply you with further dispatches.

'Very Heavy Losses' for Iran

JN121514 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1435 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] In a statement a short while ago, a senior military commander said that the ignorant Iranian enemy tried to launch attacks south of Al-Asmak Lake yesterday in a failed attempt to regain some areas it lost during battles in the past 2 days, but, he added, that its attempts failed and they sustained very heavy losses. He added: Our forces managed to take control of the important crossings on Al-Asmak Lake and mop up other areas east of the Lake.

In a statement to Baghdad radio a short while ago, 'Abd al-Jabbar Muhsin, director of political guidance, said enemy losses last night were very heavy, that every minute hundreds of shells landed among enemy forces present in the narrow area, which is 5 km long and 2 km wide, and that the Iranians' losses estimated at tens of thousands of soldiers explain their desperate propaganda clamor and claims, adding there is a great uproar in Iran over the thousands of bodies being transported to Iran daily and the tens of thousands of wounded who do not find treatment.

In his statement to the radio, the director of the Political Guidance Department stressed that the Iraqi forces are in full control of the situation and that the enemy forces failed to make any progress. In the meantime, he added, the soldiers of triumphant leader Saddam Husayn continue to mop up the few remaining areas. 'Abd al-jabbar Muhsin announced that a strong blow with tactical surface-to-surface missiles was dealt this afternoon to the Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] area, where there was a large concentration of knaves. Most of this concentration's personnel were killed. He also said that as of 1600 today, the Air Force carried out about 160 air raids on enemy transport and supply lines and units on the battlefield, inflicting very heavy losses.

The director of the Defense Ministry's Political Guidance Department stressed that Army helicopter gunships are continuously monitoring enemy moves, vehicles, and troop concentrations, inflicting huge losses on them.Concluding, he said: This will lead to Iraq's final victory, God willing. It will be a decisive victory after which the Khomeyniites will be helpless to do anything.

Communique No 2,524

JN121816 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Communique No 2,524 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 12 January 1987]

[Text] Our brave Armed Forces today continued to inflict unmatched disasters on the scoundrel Khomeyniites, the agents of Zionism, who have ambitions on our land. Every day the soldiers of freedom affirm they are a force which cannot be challenged by another force and that they are the solid wall on which the heads of the tyrants are crushed. This land will remain free and proud with its people as long as God blesses it and as long as such men live on it. The following are operations for last night and today:

1. Our brave forces in the heroic III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah continued their God-supported advance, taking new areas of strategic importance from the enemy. The disappointed enemy made strenuous efforts last night to regain some of the footholds it lost and in which it lost thousands of its soldiers. But

our brave forces confronted it with rare courage and annihilated all the groups the enemy threw before the merciless Iraqi fire from which no scoundrel escaped except those who fled.

Last night and today, hundreds of deadly shells landed among the enemy forces every minute from our brave artillery to chop off the Khomeyniites' heads. The areas in which the enemy exists became a terrible crematorium for them. The enemy sustained very huge losses last night and today in lives, equipment, and weapons. Our artillery and surface-to-surface tactical missiles hit enemy concentrations and supply lines deep inside enemy territory. Our brave Armed Forces are now in full control of the situation and have the initiative on all combat axes.

2. Our heroic Air Force, Iraq's sword brandished in the face of its enemies and the hammer of righteousness destroying the heads of the unjust, are travelling Iran from one end to the other and dropping their destructive bombs onto the battlefield, sending thousands of the enemies of God and man to hell. Our true hawks carried out 253 combat missions last night and today against enemy units. They inflicted heavy losses in life and equipment and destroyed selected targets in Iranian cities. This was to punish the charlatan's regime for its shelling of residential areas and todestroy other vital militarily significant targets. It was also to take revenge for the Iranian regime's crimes against our civilians, and to prevent this regime from exploiting its vital installations for aggressive purposes. The raids went as follows:

a. A destructive raid on the city of Dezful at 2300 yesterday.

b. A destructive raid on the city of Esfahan at 2305 yesterday.

c. A destructive raid on the city of Qom at 2305 yesterday.

d. A destructive raid on the city of Kashan at 1000 today.

e. A devastating raid on the city of Esfahan for the second time at 1000 today.

f. A devastating raid on the city of Qom at 1147 today.

g. A devastating raid on the city of Borujerd at 1150 today.

h. A devastating raid on the city of Arak at 1150 today.

i. Our aircraft hit a surface-to-surface Hawk missile battery north of Mohammerah [Khorramshahr] at 0744 today, reducing it to ashes.

j. At 1130 today our aircraft made an accurate and effective strike against a large maritime target near the Iranian coast.

k. At 1230 today our aircraft struck the Hamid camp, destroying the enemy concentrations in it.

l. At 1230 today our aircraft hit the Hoseyniyeh railway station which is being used for military purposes, killing large numbers of Khomeyniites.

m. A devastating raid on the pumping station of the Agha Jari oilfield, setting it ablaze, at 1455 today.

n. A devastating raid on the separators [al-'azilat] of the Bibi Hakimah oil pumping station, setting them ablaze, at 1455 today.

o. A devastating raid at 1455 today on the separators of the main pumping station of the Gachsaran oilfield.

p. Two devastating raids on the city of Ilam at 1600 today.

After carrying out all these missions, our aircraft returned safely and triumphantly to the homeland, praised be God, except two aircraft which fell over enemy territory. We hold the Iranian side responsible for the two pilots' safety. Glory to our Air Force and pride to its heroes.

3. As usual, the knights of the helicopter gunships were monitoring every enemy move. They destroyed several enemy concentrations and a number of enemy vehicles and weapons. During their 207 combat missions they gave the strongest of support to our ground forces while they were liberating the land. Our helicopter knights then returned safely and triumphantly to their bases. Thanks to the brave helicopter knights.

4. The criminal Zionist Iranian regime shelled Basra residential areas with long-range artillery, martyring 12 civilians, including 3 women and 1 child, and injuring 53 civilians, including 6 women and 8 children. Three enemy aircraft bombed purely residential areas in the Kallar and 'Aqrah Districts and the village of (Sarjawah), martyring 11 civilians, including 5 children and 2 women, injuring 43 civilians, including 24 children and 10 women in the Kallar District, martyring 1 civilian and inuring 6 schoolboys in the village of (Sarjawah), and injuring 4 children and 1 woman in the 'Aqrah District.

And soon will the unjust assailants know what vicissitudes their affairs will take. [Koranic verse]

Mercy and forgiveness to our martyrs and quick recovery to our injured, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 12 January 1987

Aircraft Hit 3 Iranian Cities

JN121949 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1516 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 12 January 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. It is a day of severe punishment for the Khomeyniites for their crimes against peaceful citizens in residential areas. Our brave Armed Forces are taking revenge against the covetous racists, the agents of Zionism, on the battlefield and chopping off tens of thousands of their heads. Meanwhile, our Air Force, in addition to its great missions on the battlefield, is crossing Iran to bomb its cities in retaliation for every drop of pure blood being shed.

In addition to the missions carried out by our eager hawks deep inside Iran in accordance with Communique No 2,524 issued this evening, our aircraft carried out simultaneous destructive raids

on the cities of Tabriz, Dezful, and Bushehr, destroying the dens of the tyrants. Our fighter planes returned home victorious and safe.

[Dated] 12 January 1987

Iranians Warned of Bombing

NC130711 Baghdad in Persian to Iran
0639 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Message to all Iranians! Message to all Iranians! Message to all the people of Iran! In response to the aggression launched by the Zionist Khomeyni regime against our cities in which a large number of our dear and innocent compatriots were martyred or wounded, we will bomb all Iranian cities. These cities will be exposed to bombing. To save your lives, we ask that you evacuate your cities. He who warns is guiltless [hoshdar dehendeh ma'zur ast].

Missile Hits Residential Area

JN130741 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
0711 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 13 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. At 2440 last night, the enemy fired one of its missiles, supplied to it by world Zionism and its entity, at a residential area of Baghdad. As a result of this incident, several civilians were martyred, several others were wounded, and several houses damaged. The Khomeyniites must realize that they will face the crushing Iraqi deterrence and pay a river of blood in return for every honest Iraqi drop of blood. May God bestow mercy and forgiveness on our martyrs, and speedy recovery to our wounded, God willing.

[Dated] 13 January 1987

Qom, Esfahan, Dezful Raided

JN130751 Baghdad Voice of Masses in Arabic
0722 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 13 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In reply to the scoundrel Khomeyniites' firing one of their missiles on baghdad and to the shelling of the valiant city of Basra, and to make the Khomeyniites realize that we mean what we say and that our reply is an immediate and a direct one on their empty heads, the planes of our giant Air Force, through daring night raids, carried out the following missions.

1. At 0430 today, our planes raided the city of Qom and dealt it a destructive blow.

2. At the same time, our planes raided the city of Esfahan and dealt it a destructive blow.

3. At the same time also, our planes raided the city of Dezful and dealt it a destructive blow.

Our planes have fragmented their targets in these cities and left fire and smoke clouds covering them. Our planes returned safely to base.

Praise be to God. This is part of the strong punishment which we have prepared for the unjust. We have more in store. Any time they attempt to cause harm to any Iraqi citizen, they will find hammers which will smash their heads in any place and at any time. We seek success and help from God.

[Dated] 13 January 1987

Planes Sink 40 Boats

JN130952 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
0915 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 13 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The Khomeyniites' catastrophes continue one after another every day of this sacred battle, showing Iraq's glory and the unlimited courage of its noble knights. To prove our insistence on fragmenting the enemy remnants, and to further add to its already heavy losses, at 0753 today tens of the planes of our giant Air Force carried out intensified raids on enemy concentrations. Our planes scored direct hits, destroying a large number of vehicles, a number of its artillery at our eastern border, and annihilating these concentrations. At the same time, our planes pounced on and sank 40 enemy boats, in addition to destroying 13 vehicles along the enemy supply routes and burning them along with their personnel. After carrying out this mission, our planes returned safely to base with God's care.

Death to the scoundrel Khomeyniites. Iraq's face will continue to be bright with God's great victory. March onward.

[Dated] 13 January 1987

Air Defenses Down Helicopter

JN131037 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1019 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 13 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. At 1300 yesterday, our antiaircraft guns in the heroic III Army Corps sector downed an enemy helicopter. Thanks to those manning our antiaircraft guns in the heroic III Army Corps sector.

[Dated] 13 January 1987

Report From III Army Corps Area

JN131044 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0819 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Baghdad radio team dispatch from the III Army Corps sector — live or recorded]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen: The radio team greets you from the heroic III Army Corps sector and conveys to you the following news bulletin:

Following fierce fighting last night and until first light this morning, our valiant forces achieved new victories and tightened the noose around the enemy in the fothold on the eastern side of the Al-Asmak Lake. The swift operations of the regiments of special formations and other infantry formations began by purging new areas of strategic importance which the Iranian enemy intended to expand. The infantry formations, backed by armor, fragmented the infiltration attempts, particularly in the areas between the Al-asmak lake and the border area close to the Iraqi outpost of Shalamcheh which is adjacent to the Marshlands. Our forces are continuing to deal fatal blows to the Iranian enemy at all axes of the front.

A field commander we met this morning told the radio team that the Zionist Iranian enemy carried out an offensive against one of our formations in the crossings area where our forces have full control in the western side of the Al-Asmak lake. However, this armor-backed offensive, by over one formation, in addition to other formations of the Khomeyni Guards and mobilized [basiij] units was annihihlated, and no mechanized or infantry unit was able to achieve any of its objectives or to penetrate our strong defenses in that area.

Elsewhere on the front, through their intensified artillery fire, the Salah al-din, Muhammad al-Qasim, the Al- Miqdad Forces, and other forces incorporated with them, have turned the areas between the enemy rear and front lines into an area of fire and smoke. The sounds of explosions could be also be heard a short distance away. This proves that enemy units are burning one after another.

One of the offices of the heroic formations said that he heard an appeal by one of the enemy saying that one of their commanders had been killed by an Iraqi rocket, and that other personnel were also killed. The assistant of this commander asked for reinforcements to save them from the impasse in which the Iraqi Forces had put them. Another appeal by an enemy commander, was also heard in which he asks for reinforcements to evacuate their dead and wounded. His command, behind enemy lines, asked him to arrange the evacuation by whatever means remained. However, he appealed again saying: I cannot carry out the evacuation. This because he cannot carry out such a very difficult mission due to the intensified Iraqi fire power. Accept the greetings of the radio team. God's peace and blessings be upon you.

Raid on Khorramabad Announced

JN131047 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1025 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 13 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In continuation of our reply to the scoundrel Khomeyniites' shelling of the purely residential areas in the cities of Baghdad and Basra, and the village of (Sarchawah), and to prevent the servants of Zionism from committing the crimes of shelling cities, our heroic Air Force resumed its bombing of Iranian cities. At 1100 today, our daring planes carried out a violent and a destructive raid on the city of Khorramabad and hit their selected targets in this city. Our planes returned to the homeland safely and proud of their valiant hawks' unique skills and glorious deeds.

[Dated] 13 January 1987

Air Defenses Down Plane

JN131123 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1100 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 13 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. At 1100 today, one of the planes of the enemy ravens attempted to carry out evil against civilian targets in the Kallar area. However, the alert Iraqis manning the antiaircraft guns spotted the losing enemy plane and dealt it a successful blow. The plane fell in flames in our territory in the same area. Our units in the area captured the pilot, who is a captain. Praise be to God.

[Dated] 13 January 1987

Bakhtaran Raid Announced

JN131247 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 13 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. To make the scoundrel Khomeyniites know that war is not made with words, that their objectives will not be achieved despite their evil intentions, that there is enormous firepower between them, and that Iraq will burn their worn out entity, and until those tyrants realize that the Iraqi people's will, which is expressed by the leadership's wise words and embodied by the men's deeds, tens of our planes, at 1330 today, repeatedly struck the city of Kermanshan [Bakhtaran] and demolished its houses on the evil heads. All our planes returned safely to base. Praise be to God. It is true that ruins suit the Khomeyniite bats.

[Dated] 13 January 1987

Planes Raid Missile Batteries

JN131253 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1230 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 13 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. As is the habit of the rapacious hawks which challenge the enemy and the criminal Khomeyniites, particularly their air defenses to prove to them that there is no target that cannot be reached by Iraqi hands, that the Zionist arms supplies to them cannot protect them from Iraq's blows, and that their falsehood cannot protect them, our Air Force today challenged our enemy's antiaircraft missiles and achieved the following:

1. At 1030 today, our planes raided a surface-to-air missile battery north of the city of Mohammerah [Khorramshahr].

2. At 1140 today, our planes carried out a destructive raid on a surface-to-air missile battery in the city of Mohammerah.

3. At 1156 today, our planes raided another missile battery north of the city of Mohammerah.

4. At 1210 today, our planes carried out a destructive raid on a surface-to-air missile battery in Bandar-e Khomeyni.

5. At 1328 today, our planes carried out a destructive raid on a surface-to-air missile battery in Kermanshah [Bakhtaran].

After carrying out these miraculous and heroic missions, all our planes returned to the homeland safely, carrying tidings of victory and proud of its valiant and genuine Arab pilots.

[Dated] 13 January 1987

Egyptian Interior Minister Arrives in Baghdad

JN102038 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Text] Egyptian Interior Minister Major General Zaki Badr arrived in Baghdad this evening leading a delegation on a visit to Iraq of several days. Maj Gen Zaki Badr will hold talks with Sa'dun Shakir, RCC member and interior minister, on ways to promote cooperation between the two fraternal countries. He was received at the airport by the Iraqi interior minister, a number of ministry officials, and the head of the Egyptian interests section.

Mahmud Confers With Badr

JN111650 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1600 GMT 11 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Jan (INA) — Sa'dun Shakir Mahmud, Iraqi RCC member and minister of interior, and Major General Zaki Mustafa Badr, Egyptian minister of interior, began their talks here today. The talks will discuss a number of issues concerning relations between the two countries and promoting them in all fields. At the beginning of the talks, Sa'dun Shakir praised Egypt's stand on Iraq in its battle against the Iranian aggression.

Ibrahim Meets With Badr

JN121142 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1040 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Jan (INA) — RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim received Major General Zaki Mustafa Badr, Egypt's interior minister. 'Izzat Ibrahim highly praised Egypt's stand toward Iraq in the just battle it is waging on behalf of the Arab nation against the Iranian aggression. The meeting was attended by Sa'dun Shakir, RCC member and minister of interior, and the head of the Egyptian Interests section in Baghdad.

Ramadan Confers With Badr

JN121627 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1516 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, met with Major General Zaki Mustafa Badr, Egypt's interior minister. The meeting was attended by Sa'dun Shakir, RCC member and interior minister, and the head of the Egyptian interests section in Baghdad. Taha Yasin Ramadan expressed Iraq's appreciation — leadership and people — for Egypt's pan-Arab position toward Iraq, which is waging a defensive war against the Iranian aggressors on behalf of the Arab nation. During the meeting, they discussed relations between the two fraternal countries and ways to expand them in all areas to serve joint national interests.

King Husayn, Delegation Leave for France 12 Jan

JN121140 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn and Her Majesty Queen Nur departed from Amman for Paris today on an official visit to France at the invitation of His Excellency President Francois Mitterrand and his wife. During the 3-day visit, His Majesty King Husayn will hold talks with His Excellency President Mitterrand, Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, and senior French officials on current international issues and bilateral relations.

Their majesties were seen off at Queen Alia International Airport by His Highness Prince Muhammad, his majesty the king's personal representative; Her Highness Princess Taghrid; His Highness Crown Prince Hasan; Her Highness Princess Tharwat; and a number of Hashemite family members. Also present were the Senate president; the speaker of the House of Representatives; the chief chamberlain; the ministers; senior civilian and military officials; the French charge d'affaires; and the Italian ambassador in Amman.

His Highness Crown Prince Hasan was sworn in before His Majesty King Husayn and the Cabinet as regent during his majesty's absence.

His Majesty is accompanied on this visit by an official delegation comprising His Highness Prince 'Abadallah ibn Husayn; Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i; Royal Hashemite Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim; Staff General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Armed Forces; Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri; the commander of the Royal Air Force, and their wives.

Economic Delegation Departs

JN121435 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] A delegation representing various economic sectors in Jordan left Amman for Paris today to join the official delegation accompanying His Majesty King Husayn during his official visit to France. The delegation will contact French economic and financial institutions which could participate in the 1986-1990 development plan. The delegation comprises Hamdi al-Taba', president of the Jordanian Chambers of Commerce Union; 'Isam Budayr, president of the Amman Chamber of Industry; and Khalid Shuman, chairman of the Arab Bank Board of Directors.

AL-RA'Y Comments on Trip

JN121047 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
12 Jan 87 p 1

[Editorial: "The European Role"]

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn and Her Majesty Queen Nur will begin an official visit to France today, and they will then visit Italy. The two visits come at a stage witnessing many moves in the Middle East crisis as well as the need to find a just settlement that returns the Palestinian people's rights and secures stability in a region which has suffered a great deal, either because of Israel's aggressive expansionist policy or because of Israel's rejection of any formula for a just peace.

Washington recently embarked on a move in the region through its Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy; Moscow issued a special statement on the Middle East; it was announced in Beijing that a Soviet delegation discussed the crisis with Chinese officials; and there are statements by the Belgian foreign minister, who was also EEC chairman, announcing that the EEC will hold a meeting to discuss what it can do with regard to the Middle East crisis. The Belgian-EEC official announced that there are many questions concerning the U.S. role, especially following the U.S. arms sale to Iran scandal, although this official did not refer to the possibility of presenting a new European initiative. However, he affirmed that the lack of new ideas and initiatives has created a perilous situation in the region.

In light of all these interrelating and correlating political moves, the importance of King Husayn's visit to Paris and Rome becomes clear. Jordan has always affirmed the importance of the European role and participation in peace efforts. This is because U.S. sincerity in seeking a just settlement cannot be guaranteed in the absence of the Soviet Union and the EEC. Also, in light of U.S. attempts to prevent other parties from participating in the search for peace, no solutions, proposals, or settlement conditions can be expected unless they are Israeli and therefore hostile to Palestinian rights as well as to stability and peace in the Middle East. All this endangers world peace.

Thus, observers consider King Husayn's visit to France and Italy to be extremely important. They also consider the visit a new assertion of Jordan's constant stand on the need to hold an international conference to be attended by all parties concerned. This is so because the absence of any party or the hegemony of another mean wasting further opportunities for justice, truth, and peace.

Further Reportage on Visit

For reportage on King Husayn's state visit to France, including his meetings with French President Francois Mitterrand, see the 13 January edition of the Western Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Information Minister Leaves for Damascus 12 Jan

JN121336 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Amman — Information Minister Muhammad al-Khatib left Amman for Damascus this afternoon to represent the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in the meetings of the seven-member Arab committee that the Arab League Council formed to contact the parties concerned to put an end to fighting in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon.

The committee, chaired by Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, comprises the Jordanian, Kuwaiti, Tunisian, YAR, and the UAE foreign ministers, in addition to Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi.

Iraqi President Phones Prince Hasan on War

JN121702 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] His Excellency Iraqi President Saddam Husayn today telephoned His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, explaining the Iraqi Army's strong position which dominates the battlefield in confronting the Iranian aggression. His highness hailed the courage of the Iraqi Army and people who are standing as an impregnable dam in confronting the aggression against the entire Arab nation and defending its dignity and rights. His highness also affirmed Jordan's pride in and deep admiration of the victorious Iraqi Army's achievements under President Saddam Husayn.

Source on Possible Government Changes, PLO

TA081122 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 8 Jan 87 p 3

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] A source close to Jordan has told this correspondent Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i may soon introduce changes in his government, replacing Marwan Dudin, the minister of occupied territories' affairs, among others.

A group of West Bank parliamentarians leveled criticism at Dudin, claiming that he bases his policy on the area village leagues, thus distancing other bodies which may support Jordan. His cousin, Mustafa Dudin, was the head of these leagues in the past. They are especially indignant about the fact that Dudin's envoys are hosted and even sleep in the homes of area village league members when they come to the West Bank.

As for Murphy's mission, this source said that in his opinion Jordan only wants to gain time and will not need to think of a serious move such as convening the preparatory committee for the international conference.

Amman believes that Jordan's status today is firm and any change can only be for the worse.

At the same time, President Mubarak managed to convince King Husayn to seek rapprochement with 'Arafat. Mubarak told King Husayn that if he keeps 'Arafat away, the PLO leader may unconditionally submit to Syrian dictate.

The source did not exclude the possibility that Husayn may meet with 'Arafat soon. He disclosed that Jordan proposed the PLO take part in its 5-year plan, but has not yet received a reply.

SAWT AL-SHA'B on U.S. 'Fragile Credibility'

JN111127 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 11 Jan 87 pp 1, 17

[Editorial: "Attempts Based on Fragile Credibility"]

[Text] With the beginning of the new year, U.S. diplomacy is reactivated with the aim of pushing the Middle East peace process forward, as they put it. We do not believe that the current U.S. moves are different from last year's moves by U.S. envoys and diplomats. We believe that U.S. diplomacy will continue going around in circles as long as its aim remains circumventing the idea of an international Middle East peace conference. It continues this by presenting proposals that would not lead to such a conference even if they were presented within calls for convening the conference itself. The talk about a mini preparatory committee for this conference or preliminary negotiations over such a conference is within Israel's repeated attempts to find a formula for direct negotiations under the cover of preparations for a comprehensive international conference, leaving out some main parties to the dispute.

Such proposals and ideas are repeatedly exploited by Israel's propaganda which speaks about "direct negotiations" and "activating" and "pushing forward the peace efforts." All these phrases have no substance as long as they are meant for diplomatic consumption and gaining time. Washington has long been aware that any peace proposals cannot be accepted unless they are based on the participation of all parties to the dispute, including the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the five permanent UN Security Council members, held within the framework of the international conference, and based on Resolutions 242 and 338. Washington also is aware that any effort outside the conception on which the Jordanian and Arab position is based is a wasted effort which will only be used for propaganda purposes and for entering a confusing labyrinth. U.S. envoy Richard Murphy's current tour of the region will not achieve anything, especially since U.S. credibility, which was undermined by the U.S. military and political connivance with Iran, is hardly the basis on which Washington can move in any direction. A peaceful settlement cannot be confined to one or two parties and cannot be realized if it is exploited by expansionist Zionist ambitions and if it is hampered by the continuous refusal to recognize the Palestinian people's legitimate rights in their occupied homeland.

Israeli Raid Damages Palestinian Installations

NC131604 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Excerpt] According to information from the Western al-Biqa', the Israeli raid on Al-Wadi al-Aswad near Yanta in Rashayya damaged a number of Palestinian positions and buildings that were the targets of the attack.

A formation of four Israeli planes carried out the strike at 1520 today while six other aircraft provided cover. Israel has confirmed reports of the raid on Yanta. [passage omitted]

French Journalist Kidnapped After Meeting Waite

NC131046 Paris AFP in English 1043 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Beirut, Jan 13 (AFP) — A French freelance journalist was kidnapped by gunmen in Moslem-dominated West Beirut on Tuesday, after he had returned from a meeting with Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy seeking the release of Western hostages held in Lebanon, an eye-witness said. The witness, a taxi driver, said he was waiting for reporter Roger Auque outside his home on the seafront, when the gunmen driving in a Volvo and Mercedes forced him into the first car.

Another French journalist Paul Marchand (eds: correct), who was waiting outside with the driver, was able to escape when the gunmen, wielding assault rifles, attacked him.

The abduction could not immediately be confirmed from any other source. It was not immediately claimed.

Mr. Auque, who has lived in Beirut since 1983, turned 31 last Sunday. He works for RTL (Radio-Television-Luxembourg) radio, but also the French newspaper *La Croix*, the Montreal paper *La Presse*, and Belgian radio. He also worked for the French-based photo agency Gamma.

The abduction, at 0750 GMT, came some 12 hours after the arrival of Mr. Waite from London to try to mediate in the release of other Western hostages being held by extremist groups in Lebanon.

Mr. Auque and Mr. Marchand had just returned from Mr. Waite's hotel, the Riviera, when the kidnapping took place.

The taxi driver was unable to say how many gunmen were involved.

Mr. Waite was involved in the release of three American hostages: Benjamin Weir in September 1985, Father Lawrence Jenco last July and David Jacobsen last November.

He told reporters on arrival here Monday that he was not just acting on behalf of the U.S. hostages.

Mr. Auques abduction brings the total number of foreigners held in Lebanon to 18, including five other French nationals. [passage omitted]

Waite Meets Junblatt

NC131305 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Excerpts] Shortly after the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy Terry Waite arrived in Beirut to undertake contacts to secure the release of hostages, a new French journalist, Roger Auque, was kidnapped in West Beirut. Photographer Paul Marchand, who was with Auque, managed to escape the kidnappers. The kidnapping took place when the two men were returning from a meeting with Waite at the Riviera Hotel.

Terry Waite met with Walid Junblatt at the latter's home in Al-Musaytabah at 1045 today. After the meeting, he stated: We agreed on the need to solve the problem of hostages in Lebanon. It is a humanitarian problem, and we should view it from that angle.

Replying to a question from reporters on the kidnapping of French journalist Auque, Waite said: No answer. It is worth noting that Waite's activities are shrouded in complete secrecy. [passage omitted]

Responding to a call by the Voice of Lebanon, the French Embassy asserted that it has no information confirming or denying Auque's kidnapping.

Group Anounces Execution of Jewish Hostage

NC132152 Paris AFP in English 2145 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Beirut, Jan 13 (AFP) — The clandestine Organization of the Oppressed on Earth, a shadowy guerrilla group, announced Monday that it had "executed" one of several Lebanese Jews whose abduction it claimed to have carried out last February.

It said the victim, Yehuda Benesti, had been a member of Mossad, the Israeli espionage service.

A typewritten statement sent to a Western news agency here said Mr. Benesti had been killed in retaliation for the "continuation of the Jewish Zionist entity leaders' policy of aggression in southern Lebanon, the Golan Heights and Palestine." The Golan Heights, formerly part of Syria, has been occupied by Israel since 1967.

The statement was accompanied by a black and white snapshot of the reported victim, a balding elderly man with a neat white beard. The text said the organization would not return his body, or those of other Jewish hostages it claims to have killed, until its demands were met.

The Organization of the Oppressed on Earth announced two weeks ago the execution of three other Lebanese Jews: Yusuf Benesti, 34, son of Yehuda Benesti, Eli Surur, 43, and Henri Men, 60.

Threatens More Hostages

NC130625 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] The Organization of the Oppressed on Earth today announced that it has killed one of its hostages. In a statement to a newspaper in Beirut, the organization affirmed that it will not return the body of this executed person, Yehuda Benesti. It also said that it will kill more hostages in response to Israel's military operations in southern Lebanon.

The same group announced two weeks ago that it had executed three Lebanese Jews, among whom Yehuda Benesti had been mentioned, on charges of spying for Israel.

Karami on Camps War, Summit With Syria

NC121354 Beirut Domestic Sewrvice in Arabic 1300 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Statement by Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami, followed by remarks in response to questions by unidentified correspondents, following a West Beirut Security Coordination Committee meeting in Beirut on 12 January — recorded]

[Excerpts] The coordination committee discussed events taking place at various levels, particularly with regard to the anticipated Lebanese-Syrian summit meeting. There are indications that it will be agreed to convene the summit, which, it is hoped, will bring imminent relief to Lebanon. I hope that next Thursday will prove an auspicious and promising day.

We also reviewed events in West Beirut and its suburbs, as well as in the camps. We must stand fast in our positions and must continue our efforts to ensure security and to defend the citizens' rights. On this occasion, I urge all parties to abide by the cease-fire and to lift the siege on the camps. It is no longer permissible for this conflict and violence to continue, for it only benefits the enemy. Israel's fingerprints are visible on everything that has happened and is happening. Israel wants this country to be its scapegoat. It is still working to establish buffer zones. This cannot happen except through the partition scheme, which would mean the end of this country. Therefore, we will continue to work for Lebanon's unity and for coexistence among all of its communities and areas. God grant us success.

[Correspondent] Mr Prime Minister, you mentioned Thursday. Does this mean that the summit meeting will be held on that day?

[Karami] No, but there is a working team that is visiting Damascus to work out the arrangements and solutions for our salvation and reforms. The team's next visit is Thursday, God willing. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Mr Prime Minister, you received a message from Mr 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam on Friday night, according to some media. Is this true, and what were the contents of the message?

[Karami] We both receive and send messages in our efforts to bring good to and serve our countries' interests. This was not the first and will not be the last such messages.

Forces Commander Ja'ja' Calls for New Formula

NC101305 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Dr Samir Ja'ja', commander in chief of the Lebanese Forces, has asserted that the Lebanese Forces want a new formula for Lebanon that will not become obsolete every 10 years. Such a formula must reflect our political reality and be based on political decentralization, he said.

In a statement published in today's edition of the magazine *Al-Masirah*, Dr Ja'ja' explained that decentralization does not mean geographical partition; rather, it means Christian and Muslim communities have the right to run their own affairs under the aegis of a higher authority that oversees their joint concerns. This requires that Lebanon be neutral at regional and international levels.

Dr Ja'Ja' stressed that the Syrian presence in Lebanon is a problem. He said that a prerequisite to the solution of the Lebanese problem is the Syrian Army's withdrawal.

Concerning rumors of an impending Lebanese-Syrian summit, Dr Ja'ja' repeated his stand that the Lebanese Forces reject any infringement of Lebanon's sovereignty or identity. If there is no infringement, however, let political activities take their course, he said.

Khaddam Says Syria To Attend Islamic Summit

JN130810 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0630 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 12 Jan (WAKH) — Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam has declared that Syria will participate in the fifth Islamic summit, which is scheduled to meet in Kuwait on 26 January.

In a statement to the newspaper *Al-Ittihad* published here today, Khaddam said his country will not exert any effort to persuade Iran to participate in the conference because Iran is an independent, sovereign state which can make its own appropriate decisions. Furthermore, nobody has asked Syria to use its good offices in this respect.

Regarding Syria's stand on convening an Arab summit, Khaddam said Syria has approved the call for an Arab summit and will participatein such a summit, and that it has communicated this stand officially to the Algerian foreign minister and to the Arab League secretary general during their recent visit to Damascus.

Khaddam described Syrian-Jordanian relations as normal and said the restoration of normal relations has been received with satisfaction by Syrian and Jordanian citizens.

Al-Asad Receives YAR Foreign Minister, Message

JN121350 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received YAR Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani at 1200 today. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and the YAR charge d'affaires in Damascus.

Dr al-Iryani conveyed to the president a message from YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. Talks revolved around the situation in the region and issues of common interest.

Al-Ahmar Receives PNC Chairman, George Hawi

JN121739 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1545 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Damascus, 12 Jan (SANA) — Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party, received PNC Chairman Khalid al-Fahum along with Talal Naji, a PLO Executive Committee member, here today. Comrade al-Ahmar also received separately Comrade George Hawi, secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party, with two members of the Party leadership. In both meetings discussions dealt with Lebanese and Arab developments and other matters of common interest.

TISHRIN Predicts Failure of U.S. Mideast Moves

JN121416 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1210 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Damascus, 12 Jan (SANA) — The new U.S. moves in the Middle East will not succeed in mobilizing anyone aside from the capitulationist Egyptian regime, which wants to break out of its isolation and ward off growing internal threats by dragging at least another Arab party into Camp David to validate its behavior and policies, according to *Tishrin*. Under the headline "Futile Moves," the newspaper said that the United States and Israel have in the past attempted to drag the Arabs into Camp David and applied political, economic, and military pressures toward this end. To be sure, they have succeeded in getting the Palestinian rightwing to deviate from the revolutionary path, principles, and resolutions of the PNC, as well as in disrupting the conciliation and security process in Lebanon. But they have not succeeded in translating these facts into new agreements and pacts on the lines of the Sadatist-Israeli peace treaty.

The Americans and Israelis are against an international peace conference, *Tishrin* argues, because it would mean participation by the USSR and the United Nations, whose resolutions recognize the Palestinian people's right to an independent state on liberated territory. The United States and Israel want to erode the cause and identity of the Palestinians. Direct negotiations are meant to bring about Arab surrender and Palestinian abandonment of their cause and rights. The international conference, on the other hand, aims for a genuine and just peace, as well as for securing the Palestinians' right to a homeland and identity.

Syria's pan-Arab stands and its determination to regain lands and rights through steadfastness and tenacity have averted an Arab collapse, sought by Washington and Tel Aviv over the years, *Tishrin* says and concludes: Syria will have no new Al-Sadat in the region.

Commentary Says Lebanese Hold Key to Solution

JN121623 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 Gmt 12 Jan 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Reports from Lebanon give the impression that there is a consensus or semi-consensus on demanding a solution to the Lebanese problem, which has become more complicated during years of internal conflict. Moreover, there is optimism regarding the various current contacts and moves to attain a national solution that would restore Lebanon's well-being and role based on unity of land and people, Arab affiliation, strong brotherly relations with sister Syria, and the struggle to liberate national Lebanese territory from Israeli occupation.

Undoubtedly, those who are optimistic about the possibility of a national solution base their optimism on firm principles of a unified Lebanon, without which there would be no Lebanon. Despite everything, it seems that all the warring Lebanese sides are convinced, or about to be convinced, that there will be no escape from Lebanon's current situation without a national solution, national unity, coexistence, joint action, and cooper-

ation based on sound principles guaranteeing future stability and precluding the causes that permitted foreign exploitation of domestic differences.

Everyone in Lebanon has weapons; the militias are dominating various areas; trading with sectarianism is widespread; division and partitioning is still being instigated and fueled abroad; and the overall majority of Lebanese aspire for an end to the anamolous situation, division and fragmentation, and strife. They aspire to joint action and national unity. A national solution has many proponents, who together constitute the majority of nationalist Lebanese and who realize that the solution must come from Lebanon and not from Israel or overseas. They also realize that cooperation in implementing such a solution should be with Syria and not with those who burned down Lebanon to peddle the Camp David course in the region. They realize that achieving justice and equality among citizens would guarantee acceptable coexistence in the future for all factions and groups.

However, the enthusiasm of the Lebanese for overcoming their present crisis is faced with the enthusiasm of Lebanon's enemies for opposing a national solution and for keeping Lebanon an arena for blackmailing and preoccupying the Arab forces that reject capitulation. Foremost of these enemies is Israel, which has covetous ambitions regarding Lebanese territory, water, skies, and its Arab role, and which occupies part of the Lebanese territory and endeavors to maintain its occupation to implement the demand the world Zionist movement submitted to the peace convention in Geneva after World War I. Among these enemies are the warmongers who make money from the war and who turn the blood, sweat, and homeland of the Lebanese into wealth and good business.

Other enemies include agents of various foreign forces who place themselves at the disposal of designs that do not benefit Lebanese national or pan-Arab interests. All these enemies will not stand idle and observe the onset of a national solution. They will act and use all their agents and cells to exploit the situation, place obstacles in the path of a national solution, turn one side against the other, and fuel and instigate incidents. This fact should be realized by all those Lebanese sides that place Lebanon's interest above all other interests.

Reaction to U.S. Statements on Iran Affair

Shamir Says 'Nothing To Fear'

TA122040 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] The prime minister has once again declared that Israel will have nothing to fear when the truth comes out regarding the supply of arms to Iran. Israel will be able to explain its part in the affair and is proud about the role it played in it, Shamir added. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that the prime minister made these remarks to leaders of the American Jewish Committee this evening. According to him, the publications released in the last few days were not the findings of a report but only fragments of deliberations. Israel had an interest in establishing contact with moderate Iranian figures, it had no relations with the contras, and the money was transferred to these rebels by U.S. officials, Shamir noted.

Herzog Denies Contra Link

TA121843 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Excerpt] President Herzog said tonight that Israel was in no way involved in the Nicaraguan connection of the Iranian arms scandal. He was speaking to a group of Hadassah's Young Judaea Movement at his Jerusalem home. Reporter Shlomo Berger was there:

[Begin recording] [Berger] The president said there are reasons that some people in the United States would want to blame Israel for the Iran arms affair, but he said Israel acted only at the request of the United States and was in no way involved with the Nicaraguan contras.

[Herzog] The government is in no way involved in the whole business of Nicaragua, the contras, and so forth. Our government, and everything we did in Iran, was coordinated with the U.S. Government, was at their request. One thing is quite clear to me, that there are a great number of people in the States that are on the defensive and it may be convenient for them to try to use Israel as a whipping boy in order to protect themselves. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Peres On McFarlane Statement

TA131155 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Peres says Jerusalem has received no U.S. request for access to Israel's Swiss bank accounts. Speaking to reporters at the Knesset this morning, Peres was also asked about the McFarlane statement [that he had lied when he said Israeli arms shipments to Iran were carried out without White House approval], but he was unwilling to comment other than to express relief.

[Begin recording] [Peres] I am relieved all the time because I believe that Israel has stated the developments and the events as they took place, and I don't have anything neither to add nor to deduct.

[Correspondent Steve Weizman] Do you believe that Israel's position is vindicated now?

[Peres] I think Israel behaved as a friend, as a truthful friend — and this is the basic fact and it remains so.

[Correspondent Jack Katzenell] Is there any chance of Israel opening the Swiss bank accounts which the Congressional committee wish to see?

[Peres] Are you speaking on behalf of the Congress?

[Katzenell] No, sir....

[Peres — interrupting] No, you are not speaking for it. Israel did not get any request of that nature.

[Weizman] Is it your view that other people might have told untruths or partly-truths in front of the committees?

[Peres] To accuse anybody is not my job and truly not my desire.

[Weizman] What is your feeling now that Mcfarlane has admitted that he wasn't telling the truth?

[Peres] I don't make any comments. [end recording]

Sends Message to Bush

TA131232 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1155 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] The Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee hosted Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres today. The main topic was disclosures in the United States on Israel's involvement in the affair of the arms sales to Iran. The vice prime minister again said Israel did not initiate anything but only complied with requests. Our correspondent Razi Barqay is in the Knesset:

[Begin recording] [Barqay] The economic issues of today have pushed the Iran topic to the sidelines, although it has previously featured prominently in the news. That is only natural.

But back to our issue: Shim'on Peres told the Knesset committee members that Israel had received a message from the U.S. Administration indicating that the United States is not accusing Israel. On the Iranian issue, the foreign minister explained, the appeal [for Israeli cooperation] came from the United States, at first from the intermediary echelon. We wanted to make sure this request came with the knowledge and consent of the highest echelon, and we got confirmation of this. Peres said it is absurd to claim the United States, not knowing what it wanted, was dragged along by suggestions. We were not all involved, at any level whatsoever, in the transfer of funds or weapons to the contras, Shim'on Peres repeated a number of times in his testimony. We will not take part in the domestic U.S. dispute on the matter, nor will we leak documents or testimonies.

According to a report I received from 'Amiram Nir in January, Peres said, Nir told his interlocutors there is no more than a 25-percent chance of the plan succeeding. We explained to the United States all along that negotiations with Iranian representatives would encounter difficulties.

Shim'on Peres also disclosed that last night he sent a message to Vice President George Bush in which he explained Israel's position.

[Peres] Israel announced the following: That it was approached by the United States, to which it acquiesced. Israel was in no way partner to the transfer of money to the contras, nor was it aware such a thing was happening. It did what it did merely as a faithful friend, for which we have no regrets.

[Barqay] Are you afraid there are certain U.S. Administration circles who want to turn us into a scapegoat?

[Peres] Perhaps, but I do not know who they are. Yesterday the president sent a message to the prime minister and to myself which says no accusations are being leveled against Israel. Besides there is something I do not quite understand, regarding the way you have been describing the matter: There has hardly been a U.S. senator who visited Israel and later made statements in the United States who failed to say Israel is not being accused of anything. I do not understand why we must constantly feel the need to draw foreign fire.

[Barqay] These were the remarks Shim'on Peres made upon emerging from the committee's session.

Let us add only this: Peres disclosed that during Murphy's talks in the capitals of Egypt and Jordan, their leaders expressed readiness to resume the efforts to start negotiations through an international conference, and he revealed that Israel has been maintaining various contacts with the Soviets, although there is no proof of a breakthrough. Murphy is due back in Jerusalem for another round of talks. [end recording]

Wish To Avoid 'Harming' Reagan
TA130953 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 13 Jan 87 p 3

[Report by political correspondent Refa'el Mann]

[Text] In the face of the rising tide of deliberate U.S. releases claiming the initiative to sell arms to Iran came from Israel and the same source may have also fathered the idea of transferring the funds from those deals to the contras, Israel's official representatives in Washington and its friends on Capitol Hill have found themselves lacking an adequate defense or counteroffensive.

Jerusalem officials maintain Israel has sufficient material to help it refute the charges against it voiced in Washington and corroborate the Israeli version that the initiative came from the United States. However, in deliberations held early this week, Yitzhaq Shamir, Shim'on Peres, and Yitzhaq Rabin decided to withhold the release of that material for the moment.

Now that the White House has released some documents and the Senate Intelligence Committee's report has been leaked, people in the United States are crying out for Israeli reactions that go beyond the generalized denials and vague declarations in the style of "our conscience is clear... we acted at the United States' behest." The warnings reaching Jerusalem are coupled by the fear that Israel's credibility among the U.S. public, which has already suffered a setback in the Pollard affair that recently recaptured the headlines, might be further eroded.

Why is Jerusalem refraining — at least for the moment — from launching a counteroffensive to prove its claims?

First of all, because any such moves would constitute taking sides in an internal U.S. dispute and would in fact point an accusing finger at certain administration bodies. It has been argued that Israel is not interested in harming its friends in the administration, primarily President Ronald Reagan, as such a move could cause Israel more serious public relations damage than it has suffered to date. From this point of view, the officials believe, the current approach of issuing general and unsubstantiated declarations is preferable.

Second, the current wave of publications in the United States is believed to be merely the first act in a play that will remain on the stage for a long time.

The "main action" will only see the light of day when the special Senate committee, headed by Senator Daniel Inouye and the "independent investigator," begins its official investigation. Only then will the time be ripe for a detailed Israeli reaction. It would be a mistake, the Jerusalem sources believe, to rush and launch a "war of documents" with the United States at this early stage.

Third, senior officials in Jerusalem believe the attempt to put the blame on Israel is "absurd" because former Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and his aides gave advice, at best, and anyone in his right mind should realize the responsibility lies with those who accepted these notions. Israel hopes U.S. public opinion and Congress will reject the attempt to present Israel as responsible, so Israel's role will become marginal and secondary.

However, in the absence of a detailed Israeli reaction, Jerusalem is increasingly feeling the urge to conduct a serious and in-depth investigation here to find out all the facts.

Officials in the capitals have expressed this in the spirit of the demand raised by Minister Amnon Rubinstein at the cabinet session. They believe that such an investigation is vital to provide the top political echelons here with as full a report as possible, to be used if and when U.S. investigators present Israel with their questionnaires and if and when a decision is made on a detailed public reaction to the charges.

Among other things, it is being argued that the investigation conducted so far by Yitzhaq Shamir, Shim'on Peres, and Yitzhaq Rabin, jointly or severally [sentence imcomplete as published]. It is likewise argued that relaying questions to the persons involved through 'Azri'el Nevo, the prime minister's military secretary, is insufficient and unacceptable.

The need may arise for the appointment of a special independent investigator on behalf of the "prime ministerial triumvirate" to clarify and explain all the facts.

Cabinet Approves Devaluation; No Defense Cut

TA130533 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Devaluation of 10 percent, an increase in the price of a number of subsidized goods, and the postponement of payment of part of the cost of living allowances. These are some of the decisions taken by the Cabinet in a marathon session last night. Details from Tzvi Pantonowitz:

[Begin recording] It was a night of some compromise, hammered out after Histadrut Secretary General Yisra'el Qeysar reacted angrily to the news that subsidized goods were to go up in price. But in the end he was persuaded to accept some of the price increases as part of a reduced package deal: Devaluation and price increases in return for postponement of part of the cost of living allowance. As a result of the 10-percent devaluation, the price of the dollar will now be 1.64 shekels instead of 1.50. The basket of currencies will now be worth 1.68 shekels, close to yesterday's black market reading.

The subsidized goods will go up by 5 to 14 percent: poultry by 5 percent, a standard bread loaf — 20, white bread — 15, and milk and milk products by 14 percent. Not going up in price at present are fuel, frozen meat, rice, oil, and salt. Also, in contrast to earlier reports, public transport is not going to cost more, again for the time being — for the time being, because the government will discuss putting up these prices by 30 percent at a later date, all as part of the agreement to win Qeysar's approval.

In addition, Qeysar also gained agreement for a number of changes in income tax rates: On wages of up to 895 shekels, the tax will be 20 percent; from 3,160 to 9,000 shekels — 48 percent, and that's going to be the marginal rate. An additional supertax of 10 percent will be paid by those earning 9,000 shekels and more a month.

Under pressure from the Histadrut, the government also abandoned the idea of canceling a number of tax exemptions.

For the government and the exporters, the key victory came in the postponement of part of the next cost of living payment, due in March — some 2.9 percent of the increase. That, in effect, was what the entire exercise was about: To put up prices, devalue the shekel, but not increase the wage costs of manufacturers too much. The governor of the Bank of Israel, Prof Bruno, said last night that the purpose of the deal was to make exports more profitable.

In all, last night the government trimmed its budget by some 400 million shekels. The Defense Ministry budget will not be cut. All the Cabinet ministers except two voted for the change — Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almozlino and Education Minister Navon. [end recording]

Peres: Messages From Cairo, Amman 'Significant'

TA120538 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Peres says the messages brought from Cairo and Amman by U.S. envoy Richard Murphy were significant. Both the Egyptians and the Jordanians showed serious intentions for renewal in the peace process. Peres was speaking last night at a dinner in honor of Italian Vice Premier Arnaldo Forlani.

Air Force Attacks 'Terrorist' Target in Al-Biqa'

TA131354 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1348 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Air Force planes this afternoon attacked a terrorist target in the Lebanese Al-Biqa'. All our planes returned safely. The pilots reported good hits. The planes attacked a target which included buildings serving as command posts for Palestinian terrorist organizations. Also attacked was a building belonging to the terrorists. To repeat, all our planes returned safely.

IDF Kills Hizballah Member in South Lebanon

TA121715 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] A terrorist was killed in southern Lebanon this afternoon in a clash with an IDF unit. Our forces did not sustain any casualties. This is reported by the IDF spokesman.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that an IDF unit spotted a three-man terrorist squad northwest of Al-'Ayshiyah, on the border of the security zone, and opened fire at the squad. One terrorist was killed and the other two were wounded, but they managed to escape. A hand grenade, Kalashnikov rifles, ammunition, and personal gear were found at the scene. The dead terrorist was a member of Hizballah and apparently planned to stage an attack against the South Lebanese Army.

Lubrani Discusses Role in Lebanon, Aid to SLA

TA101224 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Text] Is there any danger that the SLA [South Lebanese Army] might collapse in face of the attacks on it? Should Israel change its policy toward the security zone? Reporter Ben-'Ami put the questions to Uri Lubrani, Israel's coordinator of activities in Lebanon.

[Begin recording][Lubrani] Well, I am certainly concerned about the casualties which SLA has sustained. I am not concerned at all about SLA's capability to sustain these blows, and they were really very hard blows, and to overcome them and to continue its work in the security zone.

[Ben-'Ami] The question is at what price? Is Israel going to have to increase its own aid, perhaps its own — maybe the number of troops it's going to have to put into the security zone.

[Lubrani] Well, I don't think that Israel will want to increase its presence in the security zone, but I feel absolutely confident that we'll find the right way to deal with this situation. It's not, by the way, it's not the first time that we have a contingency of that sort. SLA has been subject, an object of attention of Hizballah and other terrorist groups north of the security zone for some time. I think by and large we can say that for the last 2 years of this particular package deal which we have in the north, where you have a security zone, you have SLA backed by IDF, it's been working. It's been working and it's given us the minimum of security which we require for our northern border.

[Ben-'Ami] You mentioned the Hizballah. Defense Minister Rabin said this week that at American request Israel has been restraining its attacks on Hizballah. He even talked of areas where Hizballah has immunity from attack. In the light of what's happened this week, is there any possibility of a change of policy here, the rethinking of that commitment or promise to the United States?

[Lubrani] Well, I don't think there is. I think that we shall have to find ways and means of having the cake and eating it.

[Ben-'Ami] Is that a possibility?

[Lubrani] Well, you know in Lebanon everything is possible. I would like to think that we shall find the right way in order to deal with Hizballah. It's not easy. It's an unequal fight because we are dealing with guerrilla tactics, but I think that in my mind there is no doubt that we shall find the right formula of how to handle it.

[Ben-'Ami] The UN deputy under secretary general, Marrack Goulding, was in Israel this week. He suggested to us that perhaps, in the absence of a Lebanese Government capable of exerting authority anywhere, the best answer may be for Israel to withdraw from the south and let the United Nations try and deal with the problem of hostile activity there, with the help perhaps of moderate Shi'ites in the area.

[Lubrani] Well, I don't know about moderate Shi'ites. I think that Mr Goulding touched the heart of the problem by saying that there is no government in the Lebanon. I mean there is no central authority capable of exerting authority in Lebanon, and this has been our main concern ever since we have been involved in Lebanon. I don't see any Shi'ite, moderate component of the Shi'ite community, capable of delivering anything like the authority, security which we would require in order to change our security arrangement in the security zone. Certainly Israel is seeking any possible way of communicating in any possible way, again, with its neighbors up north in order to reach some sort of an agreement by which we will be absolved of having any security concerns along our northern border. [end recording]

Italy's Forlani Meets Shamir, Concludes Visit

AU121421 Rome ANSA in English 1300 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] (ANSA) Tel Aviv, January 12 — Italian deputy premier Arnaldo Forlani ended his official Israeli visit with a meeting this morning with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

During their meeting, Forlani and Shamir discussed reactivating the peace process in the Middle East, bilateral relations and Israeli relations with the European Community.

Shamir was said to have asked for the collaboration of friendly nations, among these Italy, to set up direct peace negotiations with Jordan, while maintaining Israel's reservations on the proposal to call an international conference on the Middle East to act as an "umbrella" for the overall peace process there.

The Israeli premier repeated his position that such an international conference — "a project that every one speaks about but no one defines" — risks undermining the climate of understanding and cooperation that has developed between Israel and Jordan and that, according to Shamir, "needs to be developed further".

Shamir then briefed Forlani on the recent "rotation" of the Israeli premiership, between Shamir and the present foreign minister Shim'on Peres, a political process Italy is set to experience next spring when Socialist Premier Bettino Craxi is expected to step to [as received] hand his post over to a Christian Democrat; Forlani is also president of the Christian Democrat Party.

The two political figures then exmanined the favorable relations between their two nations and agreed that they can be improved further.

Shamir concluded their meeting by presenting Israel's needs to review trade relations with the EC in the light of last year's entrance into the EC of Spain and Portugal, two nations that produce products similar to Israel.

Yesterday, Forlani met with foreign minister Peres, who is also deputy prime minister, during which he said he was in favor of an international conference on the Middle East, that would include the participation of the Soviet Union.

Sharon Criticizes 'Jordanization' of West Bank

TA120613 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Cabinet Minister Ari'el Sharon has condemned what he called the Jordanization of Judaea and Samaria. Speaking to a group of some 2,000 of his supporters in Tel Aviv last night, he said Jordan's involvement in the territories is against Israel Government policy.

At the meeting, Sharon also accused the Herut Party leadership of silence and inactivity and criticized his party rival, David Levi, for taking the position that party leaders can have more than one function.

Mayor Pursues Jordanian Contacts Despite Threats

TA120800 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 12 Jan 86 p 2

[Report by Joel Greenberg]

[Text] Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj yesterday shrugged off a death threat aimed at discouraging his contacts with Jordan, and said his ties with the Hashemite kingdom would continue.

An obsolete grenade and a threatening note were found on Saturday near the entrance to the Bethlehem Municipality building. The note warned Frayj against contacts with Jordan.

"I see nothing wrong in contacts with Jordan, and I will continue them in an effort to develop my town," Frayj told *The Jerusalem Post*. "I'm not going to change my political positions."

Frayj cited recently published assessments by Israeli security officials that Fatah may be planning assassinations of pro-Jordanians figures in the territories, in order to demonstrate its viability in the areas and its opposition to the growing Jordanian influence there.

AL-TALI'AH Scores PLO-Jordanian Coordination

TA091830 Jerusalem AL-TALI'AH in Arabic 8 Jan 87 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "The Desired Coordination!"]

[Text] What sort of coordination is the official PLO leadership trying to maintain with Jordan at a time when developments indicate, and various circles talk about, "coordination" between the Jordanian Government and the Israeli "Bet-el" Government?

There is nothing in the various Jordanian moves and measures affecting the West Bank and the Gaza Strip that would suggest that the Jordanian Government aims at anything but to continue implementing the "job distribution" plan. This is what is called "improving the quality of life" in statements by Jordanian, Israeli, and American officials.

Moreover, there is nothing in the policy of the Camp David regime in Egypt to indicate that there is any inclination other than enthusiasm in implementing the policy of linkage to U.S. imperialism and offering services to it. This makes the mediation of this regime between the official leadership and Jordan a mere appendage of that policy, which aims at nothing but impeding the establishment of Palestinian national unity and involving the foes of the Palestinian people's national rights in the conspiracy against those rights.

Hence, renewal of coordination means nothing but agreeing to the conditions and projects put forward by Egypt, Jordan, and the United States, which do not commit Israel to anything.

The desired "coordination" is that which is based on militant solidarity with the Palestinian people and their national movement in the struggle for the right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent state. This condition does not exist in the positions and practices of those indulging in "mediations" and those with whom the official PLO leadership is trying to restoreo coordination.

Arab Council Heads Satisfied With Arens Meeting

TA110648 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 11 Jan 87 p 2

[Report by David Rudge]

[Text] Arab local council leaders have expressed satisfaction over their meeting on Friday with Minister for Arab Affairs Moshe Arens.

"We feel that we have made a good start with the new minister and we hope to continue the dialogue," Ibrahim Nimr Husayn, chairman of the National Committee of Arab Local Councils told *The Jerusalem Post*.

The talks, which lasted for three hours, were described as cordial and constructive, despite the controversy that preceded them.

The meeting was the first between the minister and the Arab council heads as a group since Arens took over the post from 'Ezer Weizman in November.

Previous attempts to arrange talks had been stymied by the minister's refusal to recognize the National Committee of Arab Local Councils as a separate body, which the Arab leaders had demanded as a prerequisite.

Instead he agreed to meet them as a delegation from the Central Union of Local Authorities which represents all local councils throughout the country.

Husayn, who is also mayor of Shefar'am, said the eight Arab council heads had been pleasantly surprised by the minister's attitude and willingness to listen.

"We were particularly pleased by his reaction to the pressing problem of illegal building in the Arab sector," said Husayn.

Arens promised to submit the Markowitz Committee's report on illegal building to Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this week and said he would recommend adoption of the proposals, with certain minor amendments.

The report recommends saving most of the 9,000 homes erected without permits by incorporating them into enlarged residential zoning plans.

The issue of illegal buildings was only one of several problems raised by the Arab representatives. They also complained of a shortage of 1,500 classrooms in the Arab sector, lack of industrial development, continued expropriation of Arab land and inequality in budgets between Arab local councils and similar sized Jewish authorities.

The Arab leaders said many Israeli Arabs feel that they are treated "as second class citizens."

Arens promised to do what he could to assist the council heads to resolve outstanding problems. He stressed however that he was not a moderator between Arab citizens and the state.

The minister said it was important for government departments to treat all Israeli citizens as equals and, if necessary, adjust their services to cater for minority groups who do not speak Hebrew. He supported the appointment of Arabs to senior government posts, including jobs in the diplomatic service.

Nevertheless he warned the Arab delegates not to use the National Committee of Arab Local Councils for political ends, saying that this would only harm their interests.

Spokesman Protests Al-Najah University Closure

TA111034 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 11 Jan 87 p 3

[Report by West Bank correspondent Uri Nir]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The Al-Najah University spokesman, Dr 'Abd al-Latif 'Aql, has strongly denounced steps the security authorities have taken against the institute and its students, and has called for revocation of the closure order and the release of detained students. He also complained that the authorities discriminate against Al-Najah and take more punitive action against it than any other institute of higher learning in the West Bank, adding that this causes harsh disruptions in academic activity on campus.

A senior security source said last week that the Civilian Administration would avoid closing universities in the West Bank as a means of punishment, but it would adopt this step as a preventive action if it receives information indicating that hostile activity is planned at any university.

A mass rally was held yesterday at Bethlehem University to mark the anniversary of the founding of Fatah. During the rally, chants were shouted in support of Fatah and the armed struggle against the State of Israel and Zionism. Prior to the rally the students held a procession on campus but did not leave the grounds. The security forces did not intervene.

Court Sentences Bi'r Zayt University Lecturer

TA111835 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 11 Jan 87

[Text] Salah 'Abd al-Jawad, the Bi'r Zayt University lecturer who, in his sit-down strike near an IDF roadblock provoked the wave of riots on Land Day [31 October], was today sentenced by the Nabulus Military Court to 7 months in jail, entailing 39 days of actual imprisonment, and a 5 year suspended imprisonment. He was also ordered to pay a fine of 2,500 new shekels. He was convicted of interfering with an IDF soldier in the course of his duties. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the actual imprisonment imposed on 'Abd al-Jawad matches the period for which he has been detained.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses Islamic Preachers Meeting

LD130038 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic
1425 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Speech by Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to preachers of the World Islamic Call in West Africa in Tripoli on 12 January — recorded]

[Text] Brothers, we welcome you [words indistinct] on its soil, which is considered a response to the call to sacred duty and which is considered a brave example by you because it bears the challenge to the crusader forces, (?to be precise) the 10th crusade, which is being waged by the United States [words indistinct] and afterward they push forward to gain control of the Islamic world.

In particular, your presence on the shores of the Gulf of Sidra is considered a challenge to the crusader campaign and a display of courage by the sons of Islam against the enemy crusaders, the sons of polytheism and rejection. Daily, they (?strengthen the props of reaction and backwardness). They rely on reaction in the Islamic homeland and in the palaces, which some of the corrupt rulers of the Islamic world fill with concubines, servants, bounties of gold and silver and livestock. The enemies of Islam provide these types as a false example of the reactionary character of Islam, and they say that Islam is a religion of (?exploitation, easy living, concubines and) [words indistinct] and this has nothing do with Islam. Islam is a religion that calls for (?giving and prayers). The Koran combats the accumulation of gold and silver because [words indistinct]. The Koran attacks people who live in luxury because they are the exploitationists and capitalists, and Islam calls for austerity, for (?jihad, prayers, and socialism).

We never deny the Islamic world's state of backwardness; most of the Islamic countries are presently in a state of backwardness. Why? Not because Islam is a religion linked to backwardness, but because colonialism has been a crusading Christian colonialism hostile to Islam. Therefore, it was aimed at the Islamic countries that it had colonized, brought into backwardness, and destroyed. These countries now appear to be in a state of backwardness, as if wherever Islam exists there is backwardness; but in fact wherever colonialism exists there is backwardness, because these Islamic regions were the target of a crusading colonialism, carrying hatred for Muslims everywhere. It had spread sectarianism, divisions, a partisan spirit, and charlatanism. It spread them through the Islamic world so that your lives became meaningless, and as the Koran says concerning life in pre-Islamic times: Their prayers at the house of God were only [words indistinct]. It was not worship; it was meaningless, but it was just [words indistinct]; something futile, meaningless, noise [word indistinct]. They want us to be like that. Colonialism wanted to turn our religion and worship into [words indistinct], all the means of charlatanism, [words indistinct].

On the other hand, we do not deny that we Muslims now live in sectarian patterns, especially in Africa [words indistinct]. This is a fact, and those present here must affirm that [words indistinct]. We know the cause of (?colonial) sectarianism. Islam and the Koran have in fact warned us against (?copying the Christians) and against becoming sects like the Catholics and the Protestants. Their [word indistinct] is different and [words indistinct]. The Koran has warned us against becoming sects and parties, against being divided in religion and turning into sects. It was imperialism that spread this nonsense, and that has generally spread as a historical reality. Sectarianism now exists. What is to be done? We must turn this sectarianism, which is meant to undermine and weaken us as Muslims, into an element of strength by turning every sect into a fighting battalion, a struggling battalion, into a league not of charlatanism, division, and hatred of other sects, but into a league of the sons of the same sect, a league of solidarity, fraternity, and region, forming a strong brotherly and holy bond between sons of the same sect. All should cooperate for what is good, for righteousness, and should extend a helping hand to their brother Muslims. That is what we can now do in the face of the sectarianism that now exists, especially in West Africa, in [words indistinct]. Sectarianism is reality, but we cannot just criticize it, and we cannot eliminate it; however, we can develop it and turn it into the opposite of what the charlatans, dervishes, imperialists, and enemies of Islam want it to be. They want sectarianism to weaken and divide the Islamic nation. We must demonstrate our free will and strong resolve, and turn it into strength with which to fight imperialism and the crusaders.

This is what is now required of us sons of the sects, especially in Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Mali, Senegal, Benin, Ivory Coast, and [words indistinct]. We must turn this sectarianism into Jihad battalions.

I have told you that imperialism set its sights on the Islamic regions, colonized them, and set them back, because imperialism hates Islam. I said this at the beginning. Now, we have come out of the phase of imperialism, but we have emerged as backward Muslims. Therefore, we must get rid of this backwardness. Imperialism educated the Christians, and gave them control of the Muslims. We see an African state where the majority are Muslims governed by a Christian. Why? Because imperialism is Christian, and it has taught people Christianity; that is, it has taught Christianity to a group of people and added them to its ranks because they became of the same religion as imperialism. This is the cause of the revolution in Chad. The cause is that there is a Christian minority [word indistinct] controlling the Islamic majority in Chad. The majority of Chad's population are Muslims. The revolution broke out in [word indistinct] because a Muslim group in Chad rose against the French and their Christian agents who were a ruling minority. The Muslims in Chad are the majority, but they were persecuted and deprived.

Now, unfortunately, a Chadian Muslim who reached power in Ndjamena has split from his Muslim brothers and joined the Christians.

Hissein 'Ibri [as heard], who is Hebrew ['Ibri], was (?brought up) by Hebrews, that is, Israelis. [chanting] His name is Hissein 'Ibri, and most certainly he is an Israeli because he has split from the Muslims. He used to be part of Frolinat, and then split from Frolinat. He sought the aid of the Jews and the Christians. The ones who rule in Ndjamena today are the French. There is no Chadian Government in Ndjamena. There are French planes [words indistinct] under the U.S. umbrella.

How can a Muslim ally himself with the crusaders — the Americans and the French against his Muslim brothers, and fight them? He has gone to the ranks of the Christians, the crusaders, the ranks of the enemies of Islam. Therefore he must be fought. Fighting him is a jihad.

The other Islamic countries, the majority of whom, as I already said, are Muslim ruled by a non-Muslim minority, because colonialism is Western and (?it plays Muslims against Muslims) and it hates Muslims. France hates Muslims. America hates the Islamic world and would like to wipe it out of existence. Historically Britain hates the Islamic world. All these Western, colonial countries [word indistinct] harbor a historical hatred against Muslims. They are a traditional and eternal enemy of the Muslims. This is their own stand. It is because their culture, and information about Muslims differ from what we believe (?with regard to) Islam or even to Christianity. They believe that Muhammad is not a prophet. Muhammad is not a prophet. Imagine that. They do not recognize the fact that Muhammad is a prophet. They believe that if the Muslims are strong the Muslims will destroy the crusaders and destroy the churches. This is wrong. Even if we become strong we do not intend to destroy another divine religion, nor do we have the intention of destroying the churches. We do not harbor malice. You have your religion and we have our religion. But they believe that Muslims hate Christians and they want to liquidate them in Europe. They point out the Arab conquests — under Islam — of Spain and of Italy [as heard], and they believe that this will occur again as soon as the Muslims become strong.

However, that is not a stage with which we are connected because we want to live free in our homelands. They do not wish to wait until we reach them in their own countries. They decided to come to our countries and colonize us. They want to colonize us, either directly or indirectly. They either colonize us with their armies, as in the past, or they colonize us today through their agents, such as Hissein 'Ibri or the underling Numayri in Sudan. They used to believe that he [as heard] is Muslim, but in actual fact he remains as he was, French, and allied with the crusaders against the sons of his people, his religion and race, and against Africa. [Word indistinct] they impose their control directly or through their agents, who are Christians, or the renegade Muslims who are sinful and who deviated from Islam, such as Habre and [Niger president] Kountche.

How (?can this be) that he rules under the crusader banner, under the French flag and the U.S. flag. After this (?analysis) what is to be done? What we must do is turn it into a jihad, a jihad not of words but a jihad as is being waged in Lebanon. When the crusader armies went to Lebanon in the past few years, America landed its Marines in the south to protect the (?renegades) who were allied with it. France also sent hundreds of soldiers. Italy and all the Christian states [word indistinct] and they (?entered the open gate) to the Islamic East. They went in the name of protecting Lebanon, of preserving peace, and as international forces, when in actual fact they were crusader forces that had returned to the soil of Islam in the East.

You saw how quickly Italian regiments were sent: Just imagine, Italy, who had never sent a single soldier on any occasion in the world or the United Nations [as heard], quickly sent soldiers to Lebanon because the gate was opened for the crusaders to return once again to the soil of Lebanon. The troops of Italy, France, and America (?had gone) there. I believe that this is a bridgehead for the crusaders' advance. (?But) young men came forth as fedayeen, who gave their lives as martyrs for this Islamic world, for the sake of the East, for the sake of (?liberating Lebanon from the onslaught of the crusaders), young men whose age did not exceed 15 . . . [interrupted with chants: "to the Jihad"] [passage indistinct] One young man killed 300 soldiers. Another young man killed 300 French soldiers, and he was martyred against 300 (?Christians). On that day U.S. troops (?left); the French troops (?left), and [words indistinct]. [chanting]

Accordingly, [words indistinct] there should be counteraction (?in the form of a jihad) until victory is realized against the crusader forces and against their [word indistinct] agents [words indistinct], (?like their agent Habre) in Chad. [Words indistinct] so that they can live free and keep their heads high because they sacrificed (?themselves) and were martyred. They forced France to leave Africa and forced the United States to retreat [words indistinct]. Failing that, say goodbye to Chad and (?forget about Chad). The banner of Chad will fall and the Koran would be trampled on by [words indistinct] of the crusaders, as France is now doing, and control will (?remain) in the hands of the agents of the crusaders, the enemies of Islam. Muslims will become (?persecuted and deprived); your mosques will be destroyed or turned into churches. This will happen unless (?you begin) a (?counteraction) this year, carrying out jihad operations in Africa (?generally), and more precisely in West Africa. [chanting]

Islam is an international revolutionary force. We, the Muslims, should take the responsibility for liberating Africa from colonialism and the crusaders [word indistinct]. (? We must set out with objectives leading) to the liberation of Africa. (? This is particularly so because) Africa — and you are now in Africa — is a Western colony, a crusader colony. When you return, you should stage demonstrations against France because France is fighting Islam in Chad. (? You should have) the responsibility for the liberation of Africa by way of jihad operations and the destruction of the French bases. (? And when) you return from this (? area), you should stage demonstrations against French and U.S. (? occupation) and demonstrations against the agents of the United States and the agents of France, who asked France to (?officially) intervene militarily in Chad. And beside this, [words indistinct].

Each leader among you and each group is responsible for presenting a group for paradise. [Word indistinct] destroy the French bases. France should be made to feel that if it attacks Libya, a Muslim country, the Muslims should attack France everywhere. The bases in (? Africa) should be destroyed so that France feels that Islam is a force.

When you are attacked in any one place, we all must rise up and attack those who attack (? you) everywhere. [chanting]

Your (?success) depends on the (?determination of the young men) to destroy the (?French) military bases in Africa so that France is made to fear [words indistinct]. The French colonized half of Africa and humiliated Islam and enabled the enemies of Islam to dominate and humiliate the Muslims. The other half

was occupied by Britain who enabled non-Muslims to be in control of Muslims. Christian France and Christian Britain [words indistinct] have both been working to enable non-Muslims to [word indistinct] and the hatredof Muslims and for humiliating the Muslims. We must wash away this humiliation (? with) the blood of our martyrs. We must also make France respect [words indistinct] of Muslims in Africa.

Today, France and the Western world are daily (? saying) that Libya is (?preparing) an Islamic legion. [words indistinct] (?What does this show?.) It shows a crusader spirit that harbors hatred against Islam. (?The Islamic religion permits you) to hate them or oppose them or fight them. If (?our faith was) non-Muslim, they would not have raised all this uproar. [words indistinct] They are afraid of the Islam's awakening in Africa. They know that they are enemies of Islam. [words indistinct, chanting]

France still clings to the detested military colonialism, and it has no shame at all. And instead of giving Chad wheat and barley, it has been supplying it with planes and weapons so that the Chadian citizen slays his fellow Chadian. The majority fighting one another are Muslims. France wants the Muslims in Chad to fight one another until they are wiped out. This is the reason for France's presence in Chad. Therefore, we must speed up the destruction of 'Ibri, its agent, and its bases in Chad, Central Africa, and the Cameroon. And France also has a big naval base in Senegal, and in the Ivory Coast, Sierre Leone, Gambia, Togo, [words indistinct] have crusader bases against Islam. [chanting]

[At this point an unidentified person begins a 3-minute speech in which he attacks France and the United States who have military-Zionist bases in Africa for the purpose of striking all the liberation movements in the area. He points out that the United States spent $200 million on military equipment for Chad. Interrupted by chanting, the speaker goes on to say that this huge military presence is a conspiracy to attack Libya — the center of the Islamic Revolution. Participants in the rally should study ways of warding off this danger to the Jamahiriyah]

[Al-Qadhdhafi resumes] Now the United States and France are present in the heart of Chad. Together they occupy its capital. Previously there was rivarly between them in dividing spheres of influence in Africa. What is the reason for this harmony [words indistinct] between the United States and France in an African country? [Words indistinct] France takes Central Africa, and the United States takes Zaire. France takes (?Senegal), and the United States take another country bordering Senegal. [words indistinct]

But why did French and U.S. planes arrive at Ndjamena airport at the same time with arms on board? [passage indistinct]

The United States told France: We have a strategic objective in Africa. If a third world war breaks out, there are three strategic areas we want to seize. And now, until the war breaks out, we must work to change the regimes in these three countries, so that these regimes will become followers of the United States.

What are these three targets? They are Sudan, Libya, and Nigeria. France said: I have no ambitions in Sudan, Libya, or Nigeria, which means that actually France has no ambitions in Sudan, or Libya, or Nigeria. But France also said: I want to continue to hold on to my colonies in Chad, Central Africa, Cameroon, and (?Niger). Subsequently the two of them found themselves in Ndjamena: America wants to (?act) against Sudan so that it reaches the Red Sea, wants to work against Libya so that it reaches the Mediterranean, and against Nigeria so that it reaches the Atlantic.

These are the three strategic aims of America. As for France, it wants to be present in Chad so that it can safeguard its military bases, its colonies, and its spheres of influence in Africa which are near Chad: Central Africa, Cameroon, Niger, [words indistinct] in addition to strengthening its presence in its other French colonies.

Therefore, the brothers in Nigeria, when they return to Nigeria must (?talk) to the Nigerian Government. They should (?start) in the provinces with the imams of the mosques, and the shaykhs of the factions, and the young men, and the (?Muslims). The Nigerian Government must adopt a firm stand against a U.S. and French presence and their agent 'Ibri in Chad, because Nigeria is one of the targets the United States defined for its presence in (?Chad).

The (?Nigerian) foreign minister spoke this truth [words indistinct]. He said that Nigeria is very worried about the flow of French and U.S. weapons into Chad because it threatens Nigeria's security. This is the truth.

Therefore, you (?who represent) public opinion in Nigeria, should apply pressure on the Nigerian Government so that it works to topple 'Ibri, France, and the United States in Chad, and ward off the danger from Nigeria.

U.S. aircraft carriers will continue to work in the Atlantic against Nigeria, and they will work in Cameroonian ports. A U.S. military mission visited Cameroonian ports to equip them to (?receive) U.S. aircraft carriers so that they could bring destruction and war to Africa. The destruction you hear about in the Middle East and Southeast Asia will be directed against Libya and the heart of Africa. They will strike and (?destroy) the villages of the Muslims, the mosques of the Muslims, and the sons of the Muslims. They will burn the Koran with their shells.

This is the objective until the [word indistinct] against Africa is complete. This is because the one who is carrying out jihad against the crusaders is Islam. They want to destroy Islam so that they can colonize Africa afterward.

Sudan faces a crusader advance in the south. Libya faces a direct crusader advance (?from) France and the United States and, through their agent 'Ibri, an advance on Libya from the south. Sudan faces a crusader advance from the south. The crusaders in the Mediterranean continue their (?threats against Libya). The Jews in Palestine want to destroy the Middle East area and want to occupy the town of Al-Madinah. They said that Al-Madinah is a Jewish town and they want it back. They said: We have property in Tabuk and we want it back. They went even further. They said that the Ka'bah was built by Abraham, and Abraham was a Jew: Therefore we have a right to the Ka'bah. Imagine this. We must raise the Israeli flag over the Ka'bah, and

Muslims should make their pilgrimage to the Ka'bah and perform their rites under the Israeli flag — the Jewish flag.

Yes, this is the objective of the Jews. One day the United States will make it possible for them to attain this. This is the truth, unless we prove to them, as we proved to them in Lebanon, that a single Muslim can be martyred when killing hundreds of crusaders. This is what you must do in Africa after you return. You must (?build more mosques). Now that we have mosques in which we meet and pray, we must call every Friday for jihad. Anyone who wishes to volunteer should register with you, who are responsible for this, (?in every town). [chants of "jihad"]

(?From the pulpits of the mosques) you should deliver sermons. Even those who are not imams should go into the pulpit during Friday prayers and incite Muslims for jihad against the crusaders and (?Zionism) [words indistinct]. Jihad is a duty that must be carried out by every Muslim. It does not resemble prayers at a funeral, as it is not imperative for every Muslim to attend prayers at a funeral. If prayers at a funeral are attended by some Muslims, these Muslims can act as representatives of everyone else. Jihad is imperative on every Muslim, just like daily prayers. No Muslim can act for another Muslim in the performance of daily prayers. It is the same with jihad. No Muslim can act for another Muslim in jihad. A Muslim can act for another in prayers at a funeral, yet for jihad it is imperative. This is the Islamic jurisprudence.

You should (?entice the young and the old to go to jihad). You should go to jihad and sacrifice your wealth and yourselves. Incite the faithful to fight. Go to the mosques and incite the faithful to fight. Libya is your support. [chants, hailing al-Qadhdhafi]

[An unidentified speaker addresses the meeting at this point]

[Al-Qadhdhafi resumes] This is our duty. France and the United States are giving money to the African Christians, the [word indistinct], and the Muslim renegades. We also are dutybound to go to jihad with our money. We should give our money to our Muslim brothers so that they can be ready to go to jihad. You should prepare to go to jihad, all of you, and you should take up light or heavy arms. The struggle continues until victory. [chants]

Islamic Preachers Respond

LD130339 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0015 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Members of the third meeting of the preachers of the World Islamic Call Society, which ended its work in Tripoli this evening,sent a message to the brother leader of the revolution. Here is the text of the message:

Brother Muslim revolutionary, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Islamic al-Fatih revolution:

We the preachers of the World Islamic Call Society in West Africa decided to hold our third meeting in the Great Jamahiriyah to express our stand, together with the masses of Muslims in West Africa, alongside you against the U.S. crusader aggression that occurred during April, against the fortress of Islam and the Muslims, against the soil of the great Al-Fatih.

We salute your courageous, great stands in supporting the Islamic call, bolstering Islam and Muslims, championing their causes, and defending them in the confrontation with the hateful crusaders and colonialists. We affirm to you our great appreciation for your enticing and brilliant speech to our gathering during our great Islamic meeting. Our pledge to you is that we will be loyal soldiers and mujahidin, eager to die in the jihad for the way of God against the French-U.S. crusader intervention on the soil of Islam in Africa.

We shall be an invincible barrier confronting this crusader force and its agents, so that we will prevent the return of colonialism to our African Continent. The near future will witness, with the grace of God, the victory of the masses of Muslims on the soil of Africa — emerging as strong mujahidin, truthful in what they say and do — and the liberation of all Muslims and all people. If God grant you victory, you will have no conquerer. The peace and blessings of God be upon you.

JANA Commentary Denies Attack on Kalait in Chad

LD121624 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1530 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Tripoli, 12 Jan (JANA) — AFP carried a report today saying that the Libyan Army had attacked the Kalait region. The source of the report was Ndjamena. As usual, it aims at spreading a report to justify the intensive intervention by France and the United States in Chad, to increase France's entanglement in this internal conflict, and at the same time, to entrench the greediness of agent Habre for weapons and military equipment.

Concerning this report, the JANA political commentator says:

— First: The Great Jamahiriyah denies any participation by the Libyan Army in this operation.

— Second: This operation was undertaken by the forces of the Chadian GUNT.

— Third: Oum Chalouba and Kouba Olanga are situated in the liberated zones controlled by the Chadian GUNT, and the 16th parallel is nothing but a demarcation line.

— Fourth: The administrative demarcation of the liberated zones under the control of the Chadian GUNT is not defined by the 16th parallel because there are zones below this line belonging to the administrative area of the Tibesti region known as Borkou and Tibesti.

— Fifth: Involving the Jamahiriyah and claiming the participation of the Libyan Army in this attack — according to the sources of agent Habre and the affirmation of the Western information media — come within the deception campaign through which France, the United States, and the imperialist agent Habre seek to create a favorable climate for internationalizing the internal conflict in Chad to threaten the security and stability of the African Continent.

Al-Qadhdhafi Urges End to 'Madness' of Gulf War

LD130131 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0015 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution made a statement to JANA yesterday in which he said:

The Gulf war has become a mad war, and the victims of this madness are the sons of the Iraqi and the Iranian peoples, who are linked by neighborliness and Islam. Reason must intervene to stop this madness. The Great Jamahiriyah will use its moral and material weight to make wisdom replace hysteria, which (?encroaches upon) the Islamic ethic and Arab values, and which has done them great harm before history and before the world.

The leader said: This mutual hysteria negates any past claims regarding who was the transgressor and who was transgressed against, who started the war and why it was started.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives YAR Interior Minister

LD122359 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Today the brother leader of the revolution received the YAR interior minister, who conveyed to him a message from the YAR President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. Col Salih stressed the importance of strengthening and developing cooperation between the Great Jamahiriyah and the YAR. He also highly valued the participation of the Arab Libyan delegation with its brothers in North Yemen in their celebration of the inauguaration of Al-Ma'rib Dam. In addition, the message affirmed the YAR's solidarity and support for the Great Jamahiriyah in its resistance to the U.S. imperialist provocations on the African Continent.

SUDAN

Al-Hindi Meets With Libyan, Chadian Officials

JN121500 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Khartoum, 12 Jan (SUNA) — The Sudanese Government began contacts with the Libyan Jamahiriyah and Chad today to find a solution to the Chadian problem and stop bloodshed out of Sudan's concern over the ongoing conflict and its impact on the region. On Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's instructions, Al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has received separately the Libyan and Chadian charges d'affaires.

Following his meeting with Al-Hindi, the Libyan charge d'affaires stated that during the meeting he was briefed on the Sudanese role and the endeavors to solve this problem, taking into consideration that both Libya and Sudan are the parties most concerned with such a solution. The Libyan charge d'affaires said he was also briefed on the contacts and endeavors Sudan is making through the OAU and its affiliated organizations. The problem is Chadian and must be solved by Chadians. It is also an African problem that should be solved by Africans, so as to encircle some parties seeking to internationalize this problem in an attempt to gain influence in the region.

A Foreign Ministry source has said that Al-Hindi briefed the Chadian charge d'affaires on Sudan's endeavors to solve the problem and also on the reasons behind Sudan's interest in the ongoing conflict there.

Foreign Minister Confers With Iran's Besharati

JN121606 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Khartoum, 12 Jan (SUNA) — Al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met here today with Mohammad 'Ali Besharati, Iranian deputy foreign minister, who is currently visiting the country.

In press statements following the meeting, Besharati said he and Al-Hindi exchanged views on the Islamic summit conference to be held in Kuwait at the end of this month. Besharati, who declined to define his country's position on this conference, pointed out that he sensed that Iranian and Sudanese views were close on a number of issues raised during the meeting, particularly Islamic issues. He stressed Iran's readiness to cooperate with Sudan in all fields. Besharati also said he conveyed an invitation from the Iranian foreign minister to Al-Hindi to visit Iran, which was accepted by Al-Hindi, who promised to respond to it in February.

Asked about Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's recent visit to Iran, his excellency said it was successful and positive and opened the doors to the continuation and promotion of bilateral relations. On the escalation of war between Iran and Iraq, Besharati said this escalation is not linked to any positions or issues in the political arena, but is a result of Iraq's continued occupation of Iranian territory and of Iran's defense of its independence. In this regard, Besharati pointed out that Iraq is occupying more than 30 Iranian villages and 3 towns. He added that Iran has taken control of some strategic Iraqi land from which Iraq was launching attacks against Iran. He asserted that Iran does not covet Iraq's or any other country's territory.

Maltese President Arrives on Official Visit

JN121845 Khartoum SUNA in English 1748 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Khartoum, Jan. 12 (SUNA) — President of Republic of Malta Mrs Agatha Barbara heading a delegation arrived here this evening on a five-day official visit to the country in response to an invitation from the head of the State Council Ahmad 'Ali al-Mirghani.

During the visit, the first to Sudan, Mrs Barbara is to discuss the bilateral relations and means of promoting them. Talks will also focus on the international relationship and the peaceful co-existence.

While here, the president will meet high-ranking officials and visit the central and eastern regions of the country.

Mrs. Barbara was received at the airport by the head of the State Council Ahmad 'Ali al-Mirghani and senior officials.

Al-Mahdi on Ties With Egypt, Southern Sudan

JN112015 Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR in Arabic
9 Jan 86 pp 16, 17

["Khartoum Letter" by Mustafa Bakri]

[Text] Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi has given an exclusive interview to *Al-Musawwar* in which he affirmed the distinguished Egyptian-Sudanese relationship and said that he will visit Cairo soon for talks with the Egyptian leadership on the two countries' relationship. In his interview, Al-Mahdi condemned Ethiopia's support for the John Garang movement and said that secessionist movement is connected with Israel. In this interview, Al-Mahdi also spoke about Sudan's stand on various pan-Arab and international issues and all aspects of the domestic situation.

[Bakri] I will begin with democracy, which is everyone's issue and the key to several other issues, and ask you first about your observations on the recent [democratic] experiment, and I mean practical experiences.

[Al-Mahdi] Actually, we are proud of our democratic experiment, which has followed a regime of coercion and tyranny. However, our pride in this experiment and our determination to develop it does not prevent us from praising its positive aspects and noting its negative points with a view to eliminating any obstacles to democratic development. One positive aspect of this experiment is that the Sudanese people have entered the experiment with great confidence in their abilities. All political and intellectual leaders have abided by a certain degree of reasonableness and discipline, which has spread a spirit of tolerance and created a true democratic atmosphere. Furthermore, civilian-military relations have come out of the revolutionary experiment marked by a degree of cooperation and cordiality that has not existed before in the country's history. The Sudanese people feel that they have tried all forms of rule and all glittering slogans, whether leftist or rightist. Therefore, I believe that the people can, through experience, expose and reject any false alternative experiments, which will help reinforce democracy.

As for the negative points, Sudan's democratic experiment is taking place now in circumstances of backwardness and religious, sectarian, tribal, and racial differences. What is needed is a balance of all these differences without harming democracy. But in the absence of this balance, these differences could harm the democratic experiment.

Second, [as published] the former regime left behind major chronic problems in Sudan. It also clearly and greatly damaged the judicial, administrative, and security organs. The new revolutionary experiment needs to remove the effects of this damage, which could mean a delay in the country's progress.

The defunct regime also left behind a war in the south, which will continue to have negative effects on our democratic experiment, divert attention from reconstruction, and make us concentrate on the requirements and priorities of this war which, as I said, is a weighty legacy from the May regime.

Third, there is the attitude of certain trade union organizations, especially the professional organizations, and their continuous demands, which are more than the country can bear. This constitutes pressure on, and an obstacle to, the democratic experiment.

Nevertheless, the present Sudanese democratic experiment is successful in the full sense of this word. The government, which is leading this experiment, has managed to rally the support of several parties. This support has resulted in complete cooperation among the sides represented in the government. These sides have helped the government implement its program and have abided by a national [qawmi] policy that is surmounting party tensions and inflexibilities. Therefore, I believe that this democratic experiment is now attracting public enthusiasm and achieving things that will help it succeed.

[Bakri] The position on the September laws is linked to the issue of democracy whether negatively or positively. What is the future of those laws at present?

[Al-Mahdi] The September laws are a distortion of Islam. They are also harmful to justice and are rejected as laws for the country. We have not canceled them with the stroke of a pen because we want to find the correct alternative. Therefore, we froze them and appointed several committees, which submitted alternative draft laws. We are now studying these alternative draft laws, which will be approved by the Cabinet and then referred to the Constitutent Assembly. They will then become the alternative laws.

[Bakri] What is the story on the visiting ulema, whose visit is opposed by the parties and unions?

[Al-Mahdi] We have invited a number of ulema to take part in a review of the May experiment and to point out its mistakes because we do not want a repetition of this savage experiment in any part of the Islamic world. We also asked their opinion on certain problems related to Islamic thought in our modern age such as Islam's acceptance of certain modern changes, the solution to the problem of relations between Muslims and non-Muslims, and the question of modern international relations. All these problems were presented to the ulema so they could give their opinion on them. This, in fact, is a means to enrich Sudanese endeavors in every field.

[Bakri] What is the IMF's position on the views you presented to it concerning the conditions it is trying to impose?

[Al-Mahdi] We have explained to the IMF delegation the method that Sudan has chosen to tackle its problems and to reform its weak economy. We have discussed this matter with the IMF, which will determine its position in February. Our assessment is that they have understood our viewpoint.

[Bakri] But it has been reiterated that the United States has linked its aid to Sudan with progress in the talks with the IMF.

[Al-Mahdi] There is no truth to that.

[Bakri] Why is your government against any kind of cooperation with the National Islamic Front [NIF] so far?

[Al-Mahdi] Never. It is not true that we reject any kind of cooperation with the NIF. That was the position during and after the election campaign because we did not want the Sudanese people to confuse Ja'far Numayri's practices, which the NIF backed, with the true Islamic opinion, which we advocate. We thus wanted the Sudanese people to issue their clear decision on this matter. We believe that the results of the elections have confirmed the Sudanese people's inclination toward co.rect Islam and a rejection of the Numayri experiment as a basis for Islam. Now that the situation has calmed down on this matter and the features of the Sudanese popular opinion have become clear, we have opened the door of understanding with the NIF, not to include it in the government or anything of the kind, but to come to an understanding on the major national issues that require general Sudanese cooperation, such as the problem of the south, economic strategy, and other issues. We are now discussing the method of cooperation among us all on the national issues we agree on.

[Bakri] What is the truth about the internal differences within the Garang movement, and what are the efforts to solve the problem between the government and the Garang movement?

[Al-Mahdi] There is no doubt that the John Garang movement is suffering from major internal problems for different reasons, including ideological ones. There is disagreement between the line that calls for socialism and that which opposes socialism. There is tribal rivalry over leadership. There is disagreement between those who support a peaceful solution and those who want a continuation of the war. There are also personal differences and ambitions. All these differences are very much alive among members of the same movement.

As for the position on negotiations, we, of course, are so interested in negotiations that we pursued every course toward this end. I personally have participated in the efforts to achieve a peaceful solution to this problem. In fact, we have covered a lot of ground, but it later transpired after the shooting down of a civilian plane on 16 August 1986 that the Garang movement is not serious and that it is under complete Ethiopian control. These facts became absolutely clear to us. So we said that the negotiations would not be resumed with the Garang movement until we are certain that it has abandoned its terrorist methods and is free of Ethiopian control.

[Bakri] But this seems contrary to what we have heard about the existence of mediation efforts to resume negotiations with the Garang movement.

[Al-Mahdi] Certain church, political, and regional efforts are being exerted. But we have told the mediators that there will be no negotiations until we are certain that the other side is serious. We will consider any peaceful intiative by any of these mediators and see how serious it is and whether the Garang movement has indeed freed itself from the Ethiopian grip. If we are certain, we will respond.

[Bakri] You have spoken more than once about new integration bases in your relations with Egypt. What are these bases, and what are your concepts about the future relationship with Egypt?

[Al-Mahdi] We previously agreed to reject the formula of integration at the leadership level. This propagandistic integration incurs heavy costs and is not feasible. However, this does not mean that the basis of this integration, that is, the Egyptian-Sudanese relationship specifically, is rejected. On the contrary, this integration is something natural that exists permanently. That's why we are now in the process of establishing a new framework that will enhance this relationship. A special committee was formed from the Al-Ummah Party and the Democratic Unionist Party comprising Dr Husayn Abu Salih, Dr Ibrahim al-Amin, and others to formulate a new draft project that will define the Egyptian-Sudanese relationship. I and others have submitted our ideas on this issue for study and discussion to complete this project soon. We hope that this project will be extensively discussed in Egypt and Sudan.

[Bakri] When will you visit Cairo?

[Al-Mahdi] I received an invitation and I accepted it. However, I have other visits that had already been arranged. When I make these visits, I will set the date for my Cairo visit.

[Bakri] Your stand on the Gulf war needs clear answers in light of the recurrent Iranian aggressions against Iraqi territory. What is your stand on the war now?

[Al-Mahdi] We reject the Gulf war and call for a halt to it. This cannot be achieved through our desire, but through the response of the two sides. We maintain solid relations with both sides, and we do our best to seek ways to end this war. When and how?: this is the question. However, even if the war continues, we will continue to have solid relations with the two sides, and we will continue to exert efforts to end it.

[Bakri] I notice that you equate the two sides despite the fact that one is the aggressor and the other the victim. What do you have to say about the U.S.-Israeli arms deal with Iran?

[Al-Mahdi] We do not find it strange that Israel is among those who wish to prolong this war. It is also not strange that the big powers, particularly the United States, have a double standard when dealing with the Arab nation. These are unquestionable facts. Anyone who says that they are new facts is naive and knows nothing about foreign policy.

We do not deal with the United States and the USSR because we support their policies in all fields. We deal with them because they are international realities. We may agree or differ with them on some points. Relations on the international level are not based on reciprocal love as are marriages and personal relationships, but on more complicated bases, such as reciprocal treatment. While we denounce such deals, we are aware that all the big powers are involved in two-faced policies. We also know that Israel uses the current conflicts in the region for its own purposes.

While we denounce these deals, I would like to say that we view them within this context and not within any other simplistic

context. We do not expect Israel to act honestly. We also do not expect big powers always to act with complete credibility.

[Bakri] What about your stand on the camps war and on Amal's role in exterminating the Palestinians in Lebanon?

[Al-Mahdi] I believe there are many conflicts in Lebanon. Some are tribal and others are regional and international conflicts. However, I believe that there is an alliance against the Palestinian presence in Lebanon that seeks to eradicate the Palestinian presence there. This is something that harms both Arab and Palestinian stands. From this premise, we condemn this onslaught against the Palestinian presence and hope that all efforts will be mobilized to halt this destruction of the Palestinian body.

[Bakri] Why does Sudan not allow the PLO to establish its headquarters on its territory, particularly following the many attempts by more than one Arab capital to contain and besiege the PLO?

[Al-Mahdi] There is no reason for such a move. The PLO also does not want to leave locations from which it can play an effective role with respect to its cause and land. The removal of the Palestinian presence from the borders of Palestine will reduce the importance of the Palestinian figure in the Middle East equation. I do not believe that this is in anyone's interest. We will work for further cooperation with the PLO, and we will do our best to support the Palestinian presence. This presence must remain close to the occupied territories. While we are eager to safeguard the PLO's unity, we will also do our best to support the Palestinian identity, civilization, and culture. But all this must not replace the need for maintaining the organized Palestinian presence near the occupied territories to enable the PLO to exercise its militant duties fully.

Official Confirms Cabinet Reshuffle 'Soon'

JN111519 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1005 GMT 11 Jan 87

[Text] Khartoum, 11 Jan (SUNA) — A senior government official has confirmed recent reports that there will be a cabinet reshuffle in the coalition government soon involving the Democratic Unionist Party [DUP] and the Al-Ummah Party. This will be the first cabinet reshuffle since last April's elections.

Interior Minister Sayyid Ahmad al-Husayn, considered the third-in-command in the DUP political leadership, said the cabinet reshuffle will take place before March and after the DUP general conference. The minister told the daily newspaper *Al-Ubsu'* that the DUP will appoint a woman party member to the new cabinet, the first woman to hold a ministerial post in the democratic government. He did not specify the ministry or name the woman.

ETHIOPIA

Rebels Say No Early Release of Italian Hostages

AU121133 Rome ANSA in English 1115 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text](ANSA) Rome, January 12 — The anti-government Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party [EPRP], which attacked a construction camp and took Italians hostage on December 27, sees all structures such as bridges, viaducts, roads, and state-farms built to "consolidate the power" of the government in Addis Ababa as military objectives, according to interviews with two EPRP leaders published here.

In the EPRP attack on the Tana Beles construction camp, forty Ethiopian workers were slain and 27 captured, together with Italian experts, Giorgio Marchio' and Dino Marteddu.

The Ethiopians have already been released. But EPRP leaders, Mohamed Ahmed Jemil and Abraham Tafesse [names as received], said the two Italians would not be released so soon.

"They are well and in a village in Ethiopia controlled by the EPRP", they told two dailies, *Il Messaggero* and *Corriere Della Sera*. "Possibly, we will decide to release them in a spectacular action in the centre of some Ethiopian city".

They added that they have nothing against the Italians or anyone else helping their country, but they warned that "you should help the people, not play the regime's game".

Rebels Attack Government Troops in the North

EA131453 [Clandestine] Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 0530 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Combatants of the engineering unit have continued to inflict material losses on the Dergue. Recently they destroyed two military vehicles in Barentu area. On 10 January 1987, a jeep was destroyed between (Kofrenko) and (Alasera). The soldiers on board were either killed or wounded. The second vehicle was destroyed between (Asheshe) and Barentu. Two soldiers were killed and one was wounded.

KENYA

Nairobi Paper Views Shultz Visit, African Tour

EA121122 Nairobi KENYA TIMES in English 12 Jan 87 p 6

["Our Friendly American Birds of a Feather..."]

[Text] Republicans and Democrats in the USA, the world's richest country, are birds of a feather, and the point was proved at the weekend by the visiting secretary of state, Mr George Shultz.

After his talks (and a luncheon to replenish) with His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi at State House, Nairobi, also attended by senior Kenyan and American officials, among them a number of Kenyan cabinet ministers, Mr Shultz, displaying his finest fettle, addressed a crowded news conference at a leading hotel in the city. The secretary of state, who had been left in no doubt at all by President Moi in regard to Kenya's opposition to (and abhorrence of) racist South Africa's apartheid policy and reign of terror, nevertheless had the honest to reiterate the Reagan administration's "constructive engagement" policy, saying Washington has got to remain "as directly involved as possible".

Well and good!

But the shrewd and undeniably broad-minded secretary of state did not promise that, during its "positive involvement" in racist South Africa, the USA will fall in line with the rest of the world in imposing economic and military sanctions against the Pretoria regime with a view to pressurising it to sue for democratisation, justice, and fair play. Indeed, suppressing a subdued smile at his news conference, Mr Shultz said the Reagan administration was not amused about the withdrawal of U.S. companies in South Africa. He claimed that such withdrawal would result in black South Africans losing their employment. He will certainly be put right by patriots Oliver Tambo when they meet later this year, for the South African freedom fighter will tell him point-blank. "We'd rather be free, poor and half-clothed, than remain on bondage and oppressive tutelage."

Mr Shutlz, a non-believer in any manner of diplomatic rigmarole, also defended another of Washington's blunders. He said his government supported and would continue to support rebel Jonas Savimbi of Angola "and all the other people around the world who are interested in genuine freedom and democracy".

Is Angola not genuinely independent and sovereign? Isn't Jonas Savimbi a renowned turncoat who has been aided, abetted and manipulated by the Pretoria regime as Angola's "deliverer and redeemer"? It will be recalled that when the same Savimbi and the late Agostino Neto, on more than one occasion, came all the way to Kenya and sought the late Mzee Jomo Kenyatta's mediation, he (Savimbi) became the loudest in "accepting" Mzee's wise counsel. President Moi and a number of other Kenyan senior cabinet ministers were involved knee-deep in the Angolan peace talks held on Kenya soil.

Regrettably, Mr Shultz did not lucidly carry the point he was trying to make. He is no doubt aware of the fact that, even in regard to Mozambique, another genuinely independent African state, the MNR rebels there thrive on Pretoria's open support. Having in the past backed many other "wrong horses" in Latin America and elsewhere, men who later became despots and plunderers, surely, Washington, London, Moscow, Beijing, Paris, and Bonn must have realised the seriousness of their own mistakes. It is certainly none of their business to try to impose on any African people so-called "democratic scholars" who nearly always plunge their countries into grinding tyranny.

Mr Shultz's assurances of continued American economic aid are most welcome. He is seeing at the closest quarters wherever he goes during his current African safari that we are all utilising the aid packages responsibly. When he returns to the states, the

minister will hopefully try to disabuse all those congressmen of their ignorance of Africa's stark realities — the emergent continent remains badly in need of adequate aid if we are to be able to contend with disease, ignorance, famine and pestilence.

TANZANIA

Army Vows To Support Mozambican Government

EA121112 Dakar PANA in English 1428 GMT 11 Jan 87

[Text] Tabora, (Western Tanzania), 11 Jan [SHIHATA/PANA] — The Tanzania Peoples Defence Forces (TPDF) today pledged that it will not allow Mozambican independence to be threatened and vowed to help Frelimo exterminate South African-backed MNR bandits.

The pledge is among a series of resolutions by Tanzanian Army's political commissars and political instructors who have ended a six-day seminar in Tabora.

During the seminar, TPDF officers made a deep analysis of the current situation in Mozambique and concluded that counter-revolutionaries in Mozambique backed by South Africa were determined to overthrow the legitimate government of Frelimo party. "If this is to happen, then the independence and security of Tanzania and that of the rest of the Frontline States will be gravely endangered," said the officers.

The Army commended the people of Tanzania for their continuing support of their "compatriots" in Mozambique who are struggling to drive out the bandits.

UGANDA

Museveni Receives New French, Egyptian Envoys

EA121128 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Excerpt] The new French ambassador to Uganda, Mr Pierre Cornee, and the new Egyptian ambassador to Uganda, Mr Samir 'Abdallah, have presented their credentials to President Museveni. At the ceremonies, held separately at State House, Entebbe, President Museveni told the new French ambassador that Uganda appreciates the good position taken by France on the issue of South Africa. He assured the ambassador that it will be in the interest of Afro-European trade if direct exchange of produce and machinery is facilitated. The president proposed a toast to the good health of the president of France and the (?fraternal relations) between the two countries.

Receiving the new Egyptian ambassador's credentials, the president said he was optimistic that Uganda and Egypt can benefit from a balanced trade. He pointed out that Egypt produces an assortment of industrial goods which could be exchanged with Uganda's agricultural produce.

Mr 'Abdallah informed the president that his government is very interested in promoting cooperation and will provide services like construction in exchange for produce. Replying to the president's toast to the flourishing relations between Uganda and Egypt, the ambassador wished the people of Uganda peace, unity and prosperity. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Mukiibi Departs on Visit to PRC

For PRC media coverage of the visit of Ibrahim Mukiibi, minister of foreign affairs, to the People's Republic of China, see the Middle East & Africa section of the 13 January China *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

CHAD

113 Libyan Prisoners Shown to Press 13 Jan

AB131244 Paris AFP in English 1231 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Ndjamena, 13 Jan (AFP) — Chadian authorities presented Tuesday [13 January] 113 Libyan soldiers. They had been captured during recent fighting in northern Chad.

The prisoners, who Chadian officials said were all soldiers in the regular Libyan Army, were shown to reporters and members of the diplomatic corps during a press conference at the Foreign Ministry.

The officials said the Libyans had been taken prisoner during fighting around the northeastern town of Fada and around Zouar, in the northwest. Seventeen other Libyans were present who had been captured prior to the latest fighting, which began in mid-December.

The prisoners, who were marched into the hall barefoot, were dirty and visibly exhausted. About 10 of them showed signs of having been slightly wounded and one man was brought into the hall on a stretcher with serious burns on his head, arms, and chest.

Chadian officials read the names of all the prisoners, who they said were officers, non-commissioned officers, or enlisted men in the Libyan Army. Two of the soldiers were of Malian origin and two were from Niger.

Moumine Togoi Hamidi, secretary of state for information, said the prisoners were being considered "unconscious fellow victims" of Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. He said they had all been allowed to write to their families.

Mr Toumine added that fighting was continuing in the north, where he said "no town, no village has been spared by the Libyan destruction."

63 'Hope Commandos' Political Prisoners Released

AB120807 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] In the Logone, while the Hope Commandos [Codos Espoir] were officially joining the ranks of the Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT], 63 political detainees were released in Moundou. In fact, the prison's doors were opened for those prisoners in accordance with the agreements signed between the Chadian Government and the Hope Commandos.

The Hope Commandos and the National Liberation Army's elements have just joined the FANT's ranks and many political opponents had already returned to Chad. All this testifies to the obvious desire of the Chadian Government to achieve at all costs national reconciliation among all Chadian sons. President Hissein Habre, who has always expressed his strong desire for national reconciliation, quickly realized the danger Libya constitutes for Chad, and this is why he has always called on Chadians to close their ranks to stop the Libyans in their maneuvers to conquer the national territory. In fact, today history has proved him right because all of us are now aware of the Libyan maneuvers in the northern part of our country.

Thus, some fellow countrymen, fortunately, realized the importance of Al-Qadhdhafi's ambitions over our country. Those who yesterday were his allies have taken up arms against him, therefore adhering to the Chadian people's cause to drive the troops of the Colonel of Tripoli out of the national territory. It is not Al-Qadhdhafi who will defend Chad, which is not his country. Chad belongs to Chadians, and it is up to them to decide what they want it to be. Those who do not yet understood that some day will.

Aurillac on France's Commitment, 'Determination'

AB122138 Libreville Africa No 1 in French 1830 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Michel Aurillac, French minister of cooperation, who is in Libreville to preside over the Franco-African meeting, today called on Libyans to leave Chadian territory. Mr Aurillac, who was speaking from the studios of Africa No 1 Radio during an interview with Pierre-Brice Ndoumba, held the view that the liberation of Chad must be achieved by the sons of that country.

[Begin recording] [Aurillac] We wish to see Libya pull out of Chad, I would even add: spontaneously. Because it does not serve its own interest in engaging in a war of attrition against a courageous and pugnacious people who know how to defend and are already defending themselves after the achievement of their unity.

In fact, we are helping the Chadian people, their legitimate government, and their army by providing a continuous influx of logistic equipment, weapons, ammunition, and fuel. This all has proven very efficient. At this point, the operation range of the French Air Force is limited to the 16th Parallel. Of course, the 16th Parallel is not a barrier, or an impassable wall. Subsonic planes can fly across the line and drop a few bombs at random, and fly back. But I think that the Libyans would be making a big mistake if they believed that France is hesitant. France's policy is clear and has been outlined on several occasions by the president of the Republic and by the prime minister. President Hissein Habre recently received a high-level military mission. This all demonstrates France's resoluteness and our daily actions confirm this.

[Ndoumba] And yet, Mr Minister, the African community in general blames the French Government for not learning lessons from the past — since this is a protracted war — by understanding the true personality of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. Does France continue to hush up this aspect of the problem for economic or strategic reasons as you say?

[Aurillac] We are not hushing it up. We are not making loud statements either. I think that it is more through our actions than our statements that we can mark our determination. You see, it is not enough to say repeatedly: I am going, I am going, to be gone. I think that we will only demonstrate our determination by

our presence, as we are present now, at the side of our Chadian friends. It cannot be demonstrated through more or less startling statements. I think that the Libyans, with whom we would like to have quite normal relations, would be wrong to misread France's real determination. [end recording]

GUNT's Facho Ballam Calls for Negotiation

AB122255 Libreville Africa No 1 in French
1830 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Telephone interview with GUNT Foreign Minister Facho Ballam in Tripoli by Africa No 1 reporters in Libreville — live]

[Text] [Reporter] Facho Ballam.

[Ballam] I am on the line.

[Reporter] Alright, first question: What is the exact situation in northern Chad?

[Ballam] On the night of 11 January 1987, the armed elements of the National Liberation Army [ANL] intercepted a column of FAN [Armed Forces of the North] troops heading toward Fada. The ANL forces chased the enemy forces, which were in confusion, up to Oum Chalouba- Kalait, inflicting heavy losses on them both in men and equipment. The outcome of this encounter will be made known later.

However, the GUNT makes it a point to warn the French Government against any eventual participation of its troops in this conflict between the ANL forces and those of the Ndjamena rebel group.

[Reporter] You just heard the appeal made by French Cooperation Minister Aurillac who is present here in Libreville to preside over the Franco-African meeting. He said, especially, that Libyans must leave northern Chad and that the liberation of northern Chad must be by the sons of Chad themselves. But the situation is not as you have just said — effectively, there are Libyans in northern Chad.

[Ballam] But ... [changes thought] You are talking about the Libyan presence. But what are you saying about the presence of French troops in southern Chad.

[Reporter] Yes, Facho Ballam, but the French have been guarding the demarcation line, that is to say the 16th Parallel. Because... [changes thought] You agree with me that for several years now there have certainly been agreements between the French and Libyan authorities for the division of Chad into two. And of course, this is what the Chadian authorities reject.

[Ballam] We do not recognize any demarcation line. We reject the division of Chad. We think that today, the aggressor — the one who wants to govern Chad — is none other than the French Government, with an off-hand policy in Chad with the sole purpose of massacring the Chadian people, whereas, we, in collaboration with the OAU, are presently searching for a negotiated solution to the Chadian crisis.

At a time when the GUNT has made contact with the current OAU chairman, inviting the Ndjamena group to the negotiating table, the French and U.S. troops have been encouraging the war in Chad by arming [the Ndjamena group] and carrying out an endless war, whereas we say we are ready to search for a negotiated peaceful solution — the only thing capable of bringing peace to Chad. And we believe the OAU is making efforts and that we [words indistinct].

[Reporter] Pierre-Brice Ndoumba is with me here and certainly has some questions for you.

[Ndoumba] Mr GUNT Foreign Minister, we are obviously in quite a difficult position because each side is talking of aggressor, of puppet troops, and off-hand policy in Chad; and finally, we do not know who is chasing whom. We want to be clear. You said that you are finding negotiated solutions under the auspices of the OAU, whereas Libyan troops are there in the field. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz today appealed to the two sides, that is to say, the foreign troops, to leave Chadian territory. You are engaged in this conflict. What is your position — the position of the GUNT?

[Ballam] We sincerely think that this is not a matter of talking about Libyan or other troops. The problem at stake is a problem among Chadians. And we must find an inter-Chadian solution to it. We therefore think that saying there are Libyan troops in the north of Chad constitutes shirking one's responsibilities. We recognize that on the other side we have the Ndjamena rebels who have been fighting against us and we recognize them as they are — as Chadians. We think that the time has come for us to sit down around the negotiating table to settle this problem. Because today, first, the presence of foreign troops in Chad is due to Chadians. It is the Chadians who have brought in the French, Americans, and others to Chad. As long as Chadians do not understand one another, as long as Chadians do not make an attempt to find solutions among themselves, I think that although there are strangers in Chad and they must go — I think that it is shirking one's responsibility. The only lasting solution to the Chadian crisis is that the Chadians must meet, discuss their problems, find a common platform, and we will later attend to the case of the presence of foreign troops in Chad.

[Ndoumba] Well, this is what we are hoping for. In fact, we hope your call for reconciliation will be heard.

FANT Commander Interviewed on Fada Fighting

AB121142 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
0530 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Interview with Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT] Commander in Chief Hassane Djamous by foreign and national reporters in Fada on war situation in northern Chad; date not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Djamous] We are very happpy to receive you on the front and precisely in the heart of Fada, which has just been liberated by the FANT. Before answering all your questions, I would like to stress what we have always said — that Libya militarily occupies a greater part of our country. Of course, we

think that you have had the opportunity to check what we have always said. Libya had turned Fada into one of its main bases from where it is consolidating its position to conquer the rest of the country. At Fada, there were more than 2,500 with very heavy equipment, particularly Soviet-made T-54 and T-55 tanks, VMB combat tanks, and many other weapons including helicopters and fighter planes. All these were well positioned around and in Fada. Our victory in Fada is only a step in our national liberation struggle and in the manner we have chosen to liberate the entire country which is militarily occupied by Libya. Fada alone does not constitute the entire country. We know that we still have a lot to do because Libya has many bases, particularly in Faya, Ouadi Doum Onianga, Gouro, Zouar, Aozou, and Bardai. Libya has sent its troops everywhere with many weapons. [passage omitted] As far as we are concerned, our determination and the Chadian will to free themselves helped us a lot in the fighting. It was a very efficient weapon, one that our enemy does not have. In fact, they are equipped with tanks and fighter planes but are not so determined as the Chadians because Chad is not their territory. Moreover, I would like to tell the journalists here that we deployed our forces and meager means to liberate Fada. Despite our meager means, we did not count on other forces to liberate our country, which means that if other forces join us, this will just be supplementary. In fact, first of all, we count on our own resources and on the [words indistinct] that can help us liberate our country. [passage omitted] The first fighting that took place in Fada once again has proved that we can resist the enemy provided that we have the basic means. As far as logistics is concerned, we are disadvantaged because we do not have as efficient weapons as the Libyans have. Furthermore, we do not have the necessary means to defend ourselves against the aircraft that bombard us day and night, but in our opinion, these means are not very necessary for us. In fact, we have always called on friendly countries and others to help us liberate our country. As one of you has said, the capture of Fada took only 1 day and this also falls within the framework of what I just said — that is the patriotic forces' will to deal with the Libyans helped a lot as well their knowledge of the region. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] From how many places did you attack Fada? How did you launch your forces (?against the enemy) that morning?

[Djamous] First of all, Fada is a very difficult center geographically speaking because there are not enough ways in and out. We were therfore forced by nature to enter it from only one side, I mean from the (?southern part), which you visited yesterday. [passage omitted] What is very important in fighting is nationalconviction, which is the most efficient weapon. It is not their tanks or their 20-21 [as heard] They have abandoned all their materiel, which we recovered. Certainly, you have seen all the equipment we have seized.

[Reporter] Do you have a report on the materiel seized?

[Djamous] The report has been sent to Ndjamena. You can go and check.

[Reporter] Is the considerable equipment you have recovered ready to be used again now against the enemy?

[Djamous] Some equipment is already being used on the front here because we do not need to send it to Ndjamena. Some will be certainly reconditioned or maybe modified for possible use. We also have some equipment that we cannot use because we do not know how to handle it. Specialists are required to use this heavy material.

[Reporter] I understand you launched the attack at dawn. Can you explain why the Libyans did not use their aircraft during the day? Afterall, it took time before you progressed up to their (?base)

[Djamous] The aircraft were launched into the fighting and were over our heads very early. I should tell you that the first fighting began 50 km from here, and before 0830 we were already around Fada. Our rapid advance confused them, and their aircraft just circled over our heads without firing as the pilots were unable to distinguish between their troops and their enemies. There were also helicopters around but they could not fire for the same reason.

[Reporter] Did you recover any undamaged helicopters?

[Djamous] We did not recover undamaged helicopters. We destroyed the helicopters we found on the front. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Can you tell us the approximate number of Libyans present in the Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti [BET] region?

[Djamous] In the BET, I think that there are not less than 10,000 to 15,000.

[Reporter] (?Approximately one-fifth) of the Libyan Army?

[Djamous] I do not have any idea about the Libyan Army's strength. In Libya almost all the Libyans are armed: the militiamen, all those who shout everyday on the radio. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Among the prisoners do you have Libyan officers or senior officers?

[Djamous] Yes, the senior officer we have is a major, a pilot whose plane was downed recently. He is even around, and if you want you can ask him questions. Moreover, there are many captains, lieutenants, and so on. We have not captured any officer above the rank of major. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Before the offensive, your largest problem was the anti-aircraft weapons. Will you reinforce your anti-aircraft arsenal with the materiel you have recovered here or do you think that you still need more means?

[Djamous] In fact, we recovered a number of SAM's, but this is not enough because we cannot count on them. What we want is efficiency. [passage omitted] We want something more efficient. I think you have seen the planes flying past and how high they fly. They can be hardly seen but, all in all, they drop their bombs. They fly too high, and the SAM-7 missiles cannot reach them.

[Reporter] Maybe you need U.S. missiles of the Stinger type?

[Djamous] In fact, what we need is any type of missile that can reach the planes that fly over our heads, be they Stinger, Mistral, or Crotale, anything.

ZAIRE

AZAP: Mobutu To Appoint New Prime Minister

AB101739 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0856 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Speech by President Mobutu Sese Seko in Kinshasa on 9 January 1987 in reply to a goodwill message presented to him by the first vice president of the MPR Central Committee Permanent Bureau on behalf of the constituted corps]

[Excerpts] Kinshasa, 9 Jan (AZAP) — Fellow citizens, fellow militants, and cadres of the Popular Movement of the Revolution [MPR], in the framework of the renewal — better still — the strengthening of the legendary pact between the Founding Chairman and his people since 24 November 1965, a pact that MPR militants rightly describe as a pact of "complicity between Mobutu and the people," a tradition has been established according to which at the beginning of each new year, the people, who are appropriately represented by the constituted corps, meet with the president for the traditional exchange of good wishes.

Therefore, on behalf of you all, and through these simple but profound words, the first vice president of the Permanent Bureau of the Central Committee has just wished my family and me a very happy new year. I thank him most sincerely for that and through him thank all of you MPR militants who are here as well as all the fellow countrymen who are absent due to ill health or for diverse reasons, whether they are living in Kinshasa, in the hinterland, or abroad and whatever their social status or professional standing. Allow me, in turn, to wish all of you "a happy new year 1987." [passage omitted]

Before disclosing my vision of things for the year 1987, I find it useful to briefly review events in 1986 in the political, diplomatic, and economic spheres. [passage omitted]

On the strictly domestic scene we celebrated several happy anniversaries including, in particular, the 26th anniversary of the Republic of Zaire as a sovereign nation, the 26th anniversary of the creation of our Armed Forces, a precious deterrent force for the defense and security of the national territory, the 19th anniversary of the birth of the MPR our state party, and well as of the MPR youth wing. [passage omitted]

Also on the domestic scene, I reshuffled my Cabinet, considering the fact that I am directly responsible for the coordination of executive action. On the coordination of the Executive Council, I would like to point out to MPR militants that in my opinion, the post of first state commissioner has not been eliminated. It has rather been frozen because of all the hustle and bustle and the tension that post created before and during the 12th ordinary session of the Central Committee.

However, I must point out that, after 2 weeks of reflection and meditation on my plantations at Gbadolite, I think that emotions have calmed, so, at the appropriate time, I will appoint a first state commissioner, because, contrary to what some may believe, we do not lack cadres in Zaire. In any case, the public is aware that with or without the first state commissioner, the MPR founding chairman is and remains the head of all MPR organs, especially the Executive Council of which he is the head. [passage omitted]

GHANA

Government Supports Chad's GUNT, Peace Move

AB121555 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] The government says it still stands by its policy of supporting the government of national unity, or the GUNT in Chad, and the change of leadership in the GUNT has not changed the government's policy. This was stated by the secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, in an interview with the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation in Accra today.

He repeated the government's call on all factions in the Chad conflict to stop the fighting and negotiate a peaceful settlement. Dr Asamoah stressed that the fighting in Chad is not in the interest of the Chadian people and asked the warring factions not to stand in the way of the popular will of the people of Chad.

Dr Asamoah noted with satisfaction that the leader of one faction, Mr Hissein Habre, is making efforts to woo the other factions to a peace conference. He said this is a step in the right direction.

Soviets Complete Study on Bauxite/Alumina Complex

AB091745 Dakar PANA in English 0919 GMT 9 Jan 87

[Text] Accra, 9 Jan (GNA/PANA) — Soviet specialists have completed feasibility studies on the construction of a bauxite/alumina complex in Biki, Ghana, some 100 kilometers north of Accra.

The report is expected from Moscow next July, a senior official of the Minerals Commission said in Accra yesterday.

Ghana signed a contract agreement with a Soviet company, Isvestmetpromexport in 1985 for the development of a bauxite/alumina complex based on the Kibi reserves. The complex, according to the agreement, would integrate a bauxite mine whose total reserves stand at over 120 million tonnes. The bauxite has an average grade of 44 per cent alumina and three per cent silica. The complex would include an alumina plant with a capacity of 600,000 tonnes and a subsequent possible expansion to 800,000 tonnes. The agreement also provides for infrastructure such as water supply, sewerage system, roads, and facilities for loading bauxite at the tema port.

The cost of the complex would be determined when the Soviets present their report.

LIBERIA

Opposition Leader Carlon Reportedly Arrested

AB121347 Paris AFP in English 1342 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Monrovia, Jan 12 (AFP) — Police in Liberia have arrested a leading opposition politician, Jabaru Carlon, for illegal possession of firearms, local press reports said Monday. Justice Minister Jenkins Scott later said he was unable to confirm the reports.

Mr. Carlon was the vice presidential candidate of the opposition unity party in general elections held last October.

The independent newspaper, the *Daily Star*, quoted Unity Party Chairman Carlos Smith as saying Mr. Carlon had been arrested last week in Bomi Hill, about 72 kilometres (45 miles) north of Liberia, for allegedly carrying a .38-caliber revolver.

Mr. Scott and Defense Minister Gray Allison said Monday that they had received no reports of the incident.

Unity Party officials called for an immediate investigation into the report. [passage omitted]

MALI

PRC Begins Rehabilitation of Radio Transmitters

AB121855 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Excerpt] The rehabilitation work on four radio transmitters offered to Mali by the People's Republic of China, in (?1970), began this morning.

A friendly meeting was organized at the radio station [words indistinct] for Chinese and Malian officials for the occasion. During this meeting, [name indistinct], the director general of the Malian national radio, on behalf of the minister of information and telecommunications, expressed satisfaction with the continued assistance granted to Mali by China. [passage omitted]

NIGERIA

DPRK Vice President Stops Over, Talks with Aikhomu

AB121620 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] North Korea has accused the United States of stockpiling nuclear weapons in South Korea. The North Korean vice president, Yi Chong-ok, who stopped over in Lagos on his way to Togo, told airport correspondents that the United States was amassing (?range) missiles and other deadly weapons in strategic locations in South Korea. Yi Chong-ok added that 32,000 American troops have also been stationed in that country.

He said he held useful discussions with the chief of General Staff, Rear Admiral Augustus Aikhomu, and the minister of special duties, Air Vice Marshal Ibrahim Shekari, on how to improve relations between the two countries.

Information Minister Receives Iraqi Ambassador

AB121915 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Nigeria has called on Iran and Iraq to end the Gulf war in the interest of peace in that region. The minister of information and culture, Prince Tony Momoh, made the plea in Lagos today when the Iraqi ambassador to Nigeria, Mr Thabit Nu'man al-'Ani, called on him. He said that it was painful that both countries which were members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and the Nonaligned Movement were at war. He attributed the (?situation) to lack of effective communication and urged both countries to end the conflict through negotiations.

Prince Momoh said the proposals for a cultural agreement between Iraq and Nigeria would be looked into, with a view to determining more areas to be included. The minister stated that Nigeria is ready to cooperate with Iraq in the area of cultural and information exchanges that could strengthen relations and bring better understanding.

Earlier, the ambassador told the minister that his country would want the proposed agreement extended to information and exchange of media personnel.

Sierra Leone's Kamara Requests Technical Aid, Oil

AB121635 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1200 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Sierra Leone has requested for technical aid corps recently introduced by the Federal Government to assist African countries. [sentence as heard] Sierra Leonean second vice president Abu Bakar Kamara told newsmen in Lagos yesterday that such assistance will be beneficial. He described existing relations between Nigeria and Sierra Leone as excellent and urged the Federal Government to supply his country with crude oil on a continuous basis.

Mr Kamara, who was on his way to Lome to represent his country's president at the Togolese liberation day coming up tomorrow, was met at Murtala Muhammed airport by Governor Akhigbe of Lagos State.

SIERRA LEONE

President Momoh Extends Invitation to 'Arafat

JN121852 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Sierra Leonean President Joseph Momoh has invited Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman, to visit Sierra Leone. The Palestinian news agency, WAFA, said that the Sierra Leonean president renewed the invitation during his reception for the PLO representative who presented his credentials as PLO representative with the rank of ambassador in the Sierra Leonean capital of Freetown. President Momoh pointed out that Brother Abu 'Ammar's first visit to Sierra Leone last year made a great impression regarding the consolidation of cooperation between the PLO and Sierra Leone.

TOGO

Celebration Marks Eyadema Presidency Anniversary

Eyadema Addresses Nation

AB122214 Lome Domestic Service in French
2000 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Address by Togolese President General Gnassingbe Eyadema marking the 20th anniversary of his assumption of power in Lome on 12 January — live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Fellow Togolese: On the occasion of the celebration of the 20th anniversary of our national liberation, I am speaking to you with some emotion. [passage omitted]

In fact, 20 years ago, we decided together to serve the fatherland in all dignity, to build the nation in peace and security, to reorganize the national economy and the state finances, and to restore the rightful place of our country in the comity of nations, bearing in mind that no achievement could be made unless we turned our backs on the past and strengthened national unity so our country could enjoy the ideal conditions for its new deal and progress.

Of all the anniversaries we have marked so far, today's anniversary fills us with joy and satisfaction because it demonstrates that the promises made to the people when we took over have not been broken. We have addressed ourselves to the mission entrusted to us with all our heart and will and without at any time losing sight of the supreme interest of the nation, the happiness of the people, and their material and moral well-being. [passage omitted]

Within the framework of our development program, food self-sufficiency must remain the foremost priority and we must do everything to increase food production so that food will continue to be accessible to all. In fact, all workers are aware of the temporary difficulties imposed by the world economic crisis. But to mark this occasion, we have decided to unfreeze, as of 1 January 1987, the wages and salaries of all socioprofessional groups, grant a 5-percent wage increase for both public and private sectors, and grant a 25-percent increase in the family allowances of workers in both public and private sectors. These various benefits granted to workers do not mean the end of our policy of austerity and rigor which we must pursue if we want to definitively overcome the crisis.

Dear compatriots, the 20th anniversary celebration is an occasion for all Togolese to rejoice. But we would also like it to be an opportunity for forgiveness and clemency. That is why we have decided to reduce the sentences of the common law prisoners by one quarter. As a result, beginning today, of the 1,265 common law prisoners in our country, 207 are immediately set free. Furthermore, we have decided to remit the sentences of the two political detainees sentenced last July in the case of subversive documents. They will be set free as of today. So, after 20 years, there is not a political detainee in our prisons.

Fellow Togolese, on the eve of the 3d decade opening up before us with its challenges, its threats, and its expectations, we must

preserve by all means the achievements of our policy to march forward. I therefore invite you to mobilize more and more every day to contribute to the construction of the new Togo which we would like to see more peaceful, more beautiful, much stronger, and more prosperous.

Long live the national liberation! Long live the Republic!

Libyan Emissary Lauds Ties

AB102010 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Text] President General Gnassingbe Eyadema received a Libyan emissary, His Excellency al-Khudayri, Libyan ambassador to France, in Lome today. He delivered a verbal message to the president from the leader of the Libyan revolution. The visit, Mr al-Khudayri stated, falls within the framework of the good relations existing between his country and Togo. He also said that he came to congratulate Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema following his reelection to the presidency of the Republic of Togo and on the occasion of the 20th anniversary celebration of his regime.

[Begin Al-Khudayri recording] It was a great honor for me to be received by the founding chairman. As you know, I have a personal bond of friendship with the founding chairman.

I delivered a message from Brother al-Qadhdhafi to his brother, President Eyadema, first to congratulate the people of Togo for reelecting their president to continue his good work and at the same time to deliver our fraternal greetings to our Togolese brothers on the occasion of the 20th anniversary celebration of peaceful development in Togo. My visit here also falls within the framework of the continuous consultations between our two countries. We touched on problems of interest to us — problems that affect us and that simultaneously affect security and stability in Africa. You are aware of the role played by the founding chairman in the field of solidarity, peace, and harmony among African brothers. What is currently happening in Chad is an element which concerns all of us and which affects stability in Africa, and I am certain that the role being played by President Eyadema is very important. On the eve of these festivities, several people will be coming to Lome, this young capital of peace and harmony, and I am sure that his role is necessary in strengthening relations among all African countries and brothers. [end recording]

PRC Delegation Arrives

AB101010 Lome Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 9 Jan 87

[Text] A six-man Chinese delegation arrived in Lome this evening. The delegation, which is led by Minister of Commerce Liu Yi, was met on arrival at Lome-Tokoin International Airport by Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Atsu Koffi Amega. Also present were Minister of Commerce and Transport Pali Tchalla, as well as PRC Ambassador to Togo Li Peiyei.

In a statement to the press, the head of the PRC delegation said its visit to Togo falls within the framework of the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the national liberation. According to Liu Yi, this visit also will help further strengthen the ties of friendship and cooperation exisitng between Lome and Beijing.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Meets GDR Commission Chairman

MB091419 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 9 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, received Wolfgang Rauchfuss, co-chairman of the Angola-GDR joint cooperation commission, Futungo de Belas, in Luanda this morning. During their meeting, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos analyzed the present state of bilateral economic cooperation. Both sides have paid much attention to stronger cooperation. Wolfgang Rauchfuss was accompanied by Comrade Maria Mambo Cafe, secretary of state for economic and social affairs. He briefed the Angolan president on the results of the joint cooperation commission's talks. [passage omitted]

Rauchfuss Meets Ministers

MB091536 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 9 Jan 87

[Text] Wolfgang Rauchfuss, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, held two consecutive meetings this morning with Pedro de Castro van Dunem, minister of state for production, and Minister of Agriculture Evaristo Domingos.

The first of the these meetings, with Minister of State Pedro de Castro van Dunem, centered on a number of issues related to bilateral cooperation within the context of the work of the Angola-GDR joint commission for economic, technical and scientific cooperation. At the meeting, Minister Pedro de Castro van Dunem briefed Wolfgang Rauchfuss on our country's political, military, and economic situation, and gave a detailed explanation on the war that the enemy is waging against us. The negative effects of this war are very well-known. Speaking from a purely economic viewpoint, Pedro de Castro van Dunem said that agriculture is the most important subsistence sector, but he also referred to other sectors, notably the petroleum sector, which is currently facing a trade crisis due to the well-known fall in international oil prices. In this context, the Angolan official remarked on a number of objective and subjective factors that continue to affect our country's economy.

[Begin Van Dunem recording] From an economic viewpoint, well, we are experiencing extremely serious difficulties, as you, Comrade Wolfgang Rauchfuss, must already have noticed. The fall in oil prices was a great blow for us. It has meant an effective loss of about 40 percent in expected revenue which, in turn, has meant that the country is in greater debt now. Thus, 1987 will be even more difficult than 1986. As you know, our country is 95 percent dependent on petroleum. Government bodies have paid special attention to the measures that were correctly adopted by our party leadership. We are presently working toward diversifying production to create new export bases and reduce imports. [end recording]

Minister Van Dunem said that financial difficulties also have been great obstacles to work projects aimed at diversifying the economy. He disclosed that the agricultural sector's backwardness is directly linked with this.

Meanwhile, in the GDR official's meeting with Minister of Agriculture Evaristo Domingos, attention was drawn to the need for closer cooperation in that sector. Evaristo Domingos said that the Angolan Government is expecting some loans from the GDR for the agricultural sector. (?He said) that an amount of around $8.5 million was discussed some time ago. This would be invested in equipment, technical assistance, and acquisition of [word indistinct]. At the meeting, the minister of agriculture described his ministry's present situation and he referred to a number of political and social issues upon which production in the rural areas hinges.

In turn, the GDR official said that his country's government proposed a credit of $100 million to the Government of the People's Republic of Angola, including the amount for assistance to the agricultural sector. During this meeting, Minister of Agriculture Evaristo Domings received an invitation to attend the 13th Congress of GDR cooperatives in May 1987.

It should be recalled that the proceedings of the sixth session of the Angola-GDR joint commission for economic, technical, and scientific cooperation began in Luanda yesterday. The Angolan side is represented by Comrade Maria Mambo Cafe, minister of state for economic and social affairs, and the GDR side is represented by Wolfgang Rauchfuss, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers.

BOTSWANA

Masire Requests Increased Assistance From West

MB121801 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1610 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] The president, Dr Quett Masire, says it is important that developed countries, especially those with bigger economies, like the United States, should increase their assistance to African countries to enable them to develop rapidly. Opening the 17th annual conference of the African-American Institute at the Gaborone Sun this morning, Dr Masire said that, as a start, the rescheduling of debts and moratoriums on repayment of loans would help African countries to divert more resources to the productive areas. Dr Masire said that once the productive capacity has been restored,economic growth accelerated, sustained debt servicing would cease to be as much of a crippling problem to African countries as it is today with stagnant and contracting economies.

Dr Masire also talked about the SADCC program of action which he said now constitutes a contingency plan as a result of the threat of retaliative sanctions by South Africa against SADCC countries. He said that the implication is that the SADCC plan of action should be implemented at a much faster rate than originally intended in order to avert bottlenecks in the future created by reduced availability of goods and services in South Africa.

Dr Masire welcomed the statement and assurances by the United

States about its interest in the development and rehabilitation of transport corridors in southern Africa. He expressed the hope that the American delegate to the conference would ensure that the multi-year economic reform and development program for southern African countries promised by President Reagan would be approved and implemented.

MALAWI

Antigovernment Group Kills 3 Policemen in Attack

MB130728 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0400 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] News agencies reported yesterday that three policemen were killed in Malawi on 10 January when guerrillas of the Malawi Freedom Movement, Mafremo, attacked a police station. During the attack, the guerrillas neutralized and disarmed other Malawian policemen and subsequently occupied the station for 3 hours. The same sources cited a Mafremo communique issued in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, which said the police station is located in the Kaporo region in northern Malawi.

Edward Nyapanka, leader of the Malawi Freedom Movement and commander in chief of its armed wing, said that his movement decided to begin an armed struggle to create conditions for the establishment of a democratic and popular government in Malawi.

MOZAMBIQUE

Armed Forces Attack 'Bandit' Camp in Cuamba

MB130933 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0800 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Units of the 7th Motorized Infantry Brigade in Cuamba, Niassa, attacked and assaulted the main camp of the armed bandits in the region, killing eight of them. The Mozambique armed forces captured large quantities of ammunition and light weapons in the operation. The operation also led to the release of 300 peasants who were forced to live with the armed bandits.

Tanzania Pledges Assistance To Fight 'Bandits'

MB121845 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1730 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Information just received at our news desk reveals that the Tanzanian defense forces yesterday pledged to assist our country in the struggle to eliminate armed bandits financed by the South African regime. The pledge is contained in a series of resolutions approved at a 6-day seminar of Tanzanian army political commissars and instructors in the Tanzanian city of Tabora. During the seminar, the participants made an in-depth examination of the present situation in Mozambique and concluded that the armed bandits in the pay of the apartheid regime are engaged in sowing death and destruction in the country to overthrow the legitimate Mozambican Government. The Tanzanian officials hailed the Tanzanian people for their support for the Mozambican people in their struggle against armed bandits. Currently, a national campaign aimed at collecting every kind of assistance to support victims of armed banditry and drought in Mozambique is underway in Tanzania. It was launched by the supreme leaders of that southern African country.

Mozambican Rebels Claim Pipeline Sabotaged

HK130440 Hong Kong AFP in English
0428 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Lisbon, Jan 13 (AFP) — The Mozambican rebel movement Renamo said here Monday it had sabotaged the oil pipeline supplying Zimbabwe in an attack last Friday in the Chicamba region between Vila Manica and the Zimbabwe border. Renamo spokesman Paulo Oliveira said 17 soldiers of the Zimbabwe Army contingent stationed in Mozambique to help protect communications and installations in the Beira Corridor had been killed in the incident.

Machungo Receives GDR Justice Minister

LD092207 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1331 GMT 9 Jan 87

[Text] Maputo, 9 Jan (ADN) — Mario da Graca Machungo, People's Republic of Mozambique prime minister and Frelimo party central committee politburo member, has received Hans-Joachim Heusinger, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers and justice minister, for talks. In the course of the talk, both politicians paid tribute to the relations of fraternal solidarity successfully developing on the basis of the bilateral treaty of friendship and cooperation. They expressed their firm desire to further consolidate these relations. Earlier, Minister Heusinger had laid a wreath in honor of the first president of Mozambique, Samora Machel, on the Square of Heroes.

Heusinger Praises Judiciary

MB121212 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Hans-Joachim Heusinger, the deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers and minister of justice, has praised the work accomplished by our judicial organs at several levels. Speaking during a meeting with Mozambican journalists in Maputo yesterday afternoon, Hans-Joachim Heusinger assessed his visit to Mozambique, emphasizing that despite the shortage of qualified cadres in our courts, the work done has been very positive. The GDR delegation arrived in Mozambique last Wednesday and was received in audience by Mozambique Prime Minister Mario Machungo and Interior Minister Colonel Manuel Antonio. The GDR delegation returns home today.

Chissano Receives Heusinger

MB121909 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1730 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Hans-Joachim Heusinger, the GDR's Council of Ministers deputy chairman and minister of justice, has described his visit to our country as splendid. He has been leading a GDR

delegation to our country since Wednesday within the framework of a cooperation agreement signed in 1981 between the Mozambican and GDR Justice Ministries. Before his departure for the People's Republic of Angola, where he will also hold talks with that country's authorities, Hans-Joachim Heusinger said in an interview with the national media that his visit to our country gave him an opportunity to review the implementation of the cooperation protocol established for the last 2 years. He also stressed that the visit enabled him to familiarize himself with the activities of judicial bodies in both Maputo and Manica.

The GDR delegation was received by Joaquim Chissano, president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, this morning. Earlier, Dr Mario Machungo, our country's prime minister, granted an audience to the head of the GDR delegation during which bilateral cooperation relations were discussed. Also discussed in the meeting was the international situation, particularly the situation in southern Africa and central Europe.

Early this morning [as heard], Justice Ministry delegations from our country and GDR signed a cooperation protocol in the judicial field for this year and 1988. The agreement was signed by our country's justice minister, Ossumane Ali Dauto, and Dr Hans-Joachim Heusinger, the GDR's Council of Ministers deputy chairman and minister of justice.

NAMIBIA

Ovambo Denies Plans To Break With Ruling Party

MB121110 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1102 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Windhoek, Jan 12, SAPA — An Ovambo-speaking millionaire, Mr Frans Ndongo, has denied a report that he planned to break away from the ruling party of the Ovambo ethnic administration, the Christian Democratic Action for Social Justice (CDA). In a statement published in Windhoek today, Mr Ndongo said the report, which appeared in a local daily newspaper last week, was "utter nonsense."

He remained a member of the CDA and would continue to support the policies of the CDA, headed by Mr Peter Kalangula. Mr Kalangula has consistently resisted efforts to draw him into the SWA/Namibian transitional government in an effort to broaden the base of the government.

He has demanded instead that ethnic elections be held for the Ovambo population group, but central government spokesmen have said further second-tier elections would not be held in Ovambo or anywhere else in SWA/Namibia. The last ethnically-based election in the Ovambo region, which contains half SWA/Namibia's population of 1.2 million, was held in January 1975.

Mr Kalangula came to power in a palace revolution in which the previous Ovambo chairman, Pastor Cornelius Ndjoba, was ousted. Pastor Ndjoba succeeded Mr Filemon Eliphas, who won the election but was later assassinated.

SWATF Kills 56 SWAPO Insurgents in Last 4 Days

MB131021 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1014 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Windhoek, Jan 13, SAPA — Security forces operating from northern SWA/Namibia have shot and killed 56 SWAPO insurgents in various skirmishes in the last four days, and lost six men, the SWA Territory Force said in Windhoek today. The dead were Lance Corporal M. Fernandes, 25, RFN E. Nyakwa, 20, Rfn L. Alweendo, 22, Rfn P. Cerement, 25, Rfn E. Leonard, 25, and Rfn M. Ndjolominus, 21. They were all single, the SWATF said in a statement. The SA defence force headquarters in Pretoria announced the names on Friday of three soldiers who had died in action against SWAPO insurgents.

The latest SWAPO fatalities brought to 85 the number of insurgents killed in the first 12 days of the year, the SWATF said. Last year a total of 645 SWAPO insurgents died in fighting with the security forces compared to 599 in 1985.

The SWATF statement said the latest action had resulted from the insurgents hiding in southern Angola close to the border with SWA/Namibia, while they were preparing to infiltrate the territory.

The security forces took action on information received when the insurgents became active.

The statement said four school children were seriously injured on Saturday when they stepped on an anti-personnel mine laid by SWAPO insurgents at Nkongo in eastern Ovambo. The POM-Z mine had been set in a footpath used by pupils on their way to a hostel. One of the injured lost both legs.

In another incident a civilian, Mr Timotheus Shikongo, was shot in the back and stomach with a Tokarey pistol after being taken from his home by three SWAPO insurgents. He died of four gunshot wounds. The outgoing officer commanding the SWATF, Major-General George Meiring, said last week it had begun raining in southern Agnola and he expected SWAPO insurgents to begin their annual summer offensive this week.

Commentary Says SWAPO Having 'Little Success'

MB130809 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Station commentary: "SWAPO and Angola"]

[Text] It is clear from its extravagant claims last week that SWAPO is desparately trying to convince the outside world that it is still a military factor in South-West Africa/Namibia when everything, in fact, points to the contrary. The SADF has dismissed as absurd a report from Luanda that last month SWAPO killed many South African soldiers, shot down two helicopter gunships, destroyed two army vehicles, and attacked an army camp in northern South-West Africa/Namibia.

The truth of the matter is that the security forces in the territory have been highly successful in operations against SWAPO in recent weeks. The situation was spelled out clearly to newsmen

last week by the outgoing general officer commanding the SWATF, Major General George Meiring. The intensity of the bush war had diminished by one-third last year compared with 1985 and SWAPO had also scaled down its activities. Instead of blowing up power stations, Maj Gen Meiring said, SWAPO terrorists were now blowing up telephone poles. The number of SWAPO fighters had decreased from about 16,000 in 1978 to the present level of about 8,000.

Last year security forces within the territory had killed 645 members of the Peoples Liberation Army of Namibia, SWAPO's military wing. So far this year another 29 have been killed including the 10 killed last week in a follow-up operation in which 3 South African soldiers died.

Maj Gen Meiring said that SWAPO had no solid guerrilla footing to a reorganizational phase. Most of its 8,000 fighters were now being deployed against UNITA in Angola leaving a force of only about 1,200 to infiltrate Namibia. He revealed that a liaison point had been established with the Angolan Army on the Namibian border, and that the Angolans were usually notified when security forces crossed the border in pursuit of SWAPO.

Clearly SWAPO is having little success with its objectives of seizing power through the barrel of a gun and installing a Marxist government in Windhoek. South African security forces and, to an ever increasing extent those of the territory itself, are ensuring that the people of South-West Africa/Namibia will ultimately elect their own government in their independent state free of intimidation by terrorists acting on behalf of foreign interests.

SOUTH AFRICA

Pik Botha on Shultz Call for Talks With ANC

MB121452 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1449 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Cape Town Jan 12 SAPA — The United States Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, was under the impression that U.S. interests in Africa could be promoted by opposing the South African Government, the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said today.

Reacting to remarks made about South Africa by Mr Shultz in Nairobi, he said the masses in Africa would like to know from the U.S. what it had done to prevent the growing hunger crisis, poverty and economic deterioration on the continent. "The U.S. is not interested in civil rights for Africa's millions. For Mr Shultz, the need for democratic institutions ends south of the Limpopo river. He criticises the South African Government because it does not negotiate with parties such as the African National Congress (ANC). But he knows very well that the ANC upholds a policy of violence in order to achieve its political goals and that it rejects negotiation in the knowledge that it will not achieve its goal of a communist dictatorship by peaceful means."

He said Mr Shultz knew that the onslaught against South Africa was aimed in the first place against the United States but he still remained silent. "Why?" Mr Botha asked. "He came off second best against (Soviet leader Mikhail) Mr Gorbachev and is in a sorry plight over the delivery of arms to Nicaragua and Iran. Now he is trying to take the attention away from the U.S.'s fickle foreign policy by taking issue with South Africa."

Mr Shultz did not realise that there were many African leaders who were just as concerned as the South African Government about America's "weak and wavering" action against communist intervention in Africa. "Meanwhile, the SACP and the ANC laugh at him. To both friend and foe, the U.S. is becoming constructively irrelevant in Africa. It is a pity because the majority of Americans still believed in the values of reasonableness and justice which made the country great," he said.

Police Detain UDF Acting General Secretary

MB131419 Johannebsurg SAPA in English
1414 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Johannebsurg Jan 13 SAPA — The acting general secretary of the United Democratic Front, Mr Mohamed Valli, has been detained, a spokesman for the UDF said this afternoon. The spokesman said Mr Valli was detained on Monday evening in Johannesburg.

He has been the organisation's acting general secretary since the general secretary, Mr Popo Molefe, was arrested in 1985. Mr Molefe and 17 others are standing trial for treason.

The Police Division of Public Relations will not confirm or deny a detention until the name of the alleged detainee has been telexed to them in Pretoria.

[SAPA prefaces this item with the following: "Editors: We have sent this item to the SAP Public Relations Division for comment."]

Vlok: ANC's Tambo Trying To 'Dupe' Shultz

MB121640 Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English
12 Jan 87 pp 1,2

[By Ken Abendroth]

[Text] The Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, yesterday accused the ANC of "breathtaking" hypocrisy over the attack on the OK Bazaars on Friday and said, the only conclusion to draw was that it had lost control over its cadres in South Africa.

He was commenting on the 75th anniversary speech of the ANC president, Oliver Tambo, last Thursday in which he said the organisation's military wing would not deliberately be attacking "soft" or civilian targets.

This was followed by an attack on the OK Bazaars in Johannesburg on Friday in which two SPM 2 limpet mines exploded shortly after the evacuation of 6,000 people.

"If Mr Tambo's statement is not hypocrisy, then surely the only reasonable conclusion to draw from the OK Bazaars attack is

that the ANC leadership has lost control of its terrorist operations in South Africa," Mr Vlok said.

Mr Tambo's speech, he said, appeared to be an attempt to carefully dupe the US Secretary of State, Mr George Schultz, who the ANC leader was to meet soon.

Mr Vlok described Mr Tambo's claim that civilian targets would in future be avoided as a propaganda ploy designed to dovetail with the ANC's new policy of promoting an image of reasonableness and moderation with the Americans, British and other Europeans — while maintaining its programme of terror and intimidation inside South Africa.

"It is hypocritical in the extreme of the ANC to announce a change in policy on attacking civilians, and just hours latter to bomb a busy store where hundreds of civilians, most of them Black, could have been killed or injured," said Mr Vlok.

"Like the leopard they are not going to change their spots and the Western governments who are allowing themselves to be wooed by the ANC's front men should at least be aware of the duplicity of which ANC elements are capable," he said.

Top intelligence sources, who have made an in-depth analysis of Mr Tambo's 75th anniversary speech, concurred with Mr Vlok and suggested that ANC may have overplayed its hand in wooing the US Congress.

The assessment is that Mr Tambo fears the impact of two specialist intelligence reports now in the United States — the one before Congress and the other before the African Affairs Committee.

Both reports pull no punches, quoting ANC leadership on aims to attack South African targets and on Moscow backing for the body.

In his speech Mr Tambo called on the military wing of the ANC to "distinguish" itself through "its devotion to the cause of liberation and peace and its refusal to act against civilians, both Black and White".

This was in marked contrast to the ANC's 1985 Kabwe declaration that civilians would not be spared in the fight for "liberation".

The US intelligence report pools a mass of information from all America's intelligence agencies and concludes that about half the ANC's executive are known or suspected Communists.

Intelligence sources in Pretoria expect the report to influence American policy to Black movements in southern Africa using terrorism to fight apartheid.

The report notes the suspected Communist domination of the ANC's military wing, Umkhonto We Sizwe, as well as the South African Congress of Trade Unions.

Observers say it is "ironic" that the ANC's refusal to shed itself of its Communist yoke is probably one of the two biggest stumbling blocks hindering effective negotiations with the South African Government.

The other is the ANC's refusal to renounce violence.

Intelligence observers say that conciliatory offers such as State President P.W. Botha's offer of conditional negotiations with the ANC are guaranteed to alarm the radical Communist element in the ANC.

Comments on Mandela Detention

PM091429 London THE INDEPENDENT in English 9 Jan 87 p 12

[Tony Allen-Mills Johannesburg dispatch on 8 January interview with South African Minister of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok: "Botha Refuses To Budge on Release of Mandela"]

[Text] As Nelson Mandela begins his 25th year in a South African jail, the Pretoria government is offering little hope tht the man who embodies the black liberation struggle will soon be released.

Adriaan Vlok, the recently-appointed Minister of Law and Order, yesterday confirmed that the government's policy towards the leader of the outlawed African National Congress was essentially unchanged.

"This government has stated it again and again," Mr Vlok told *The Independent* in an exclusive interview that coincided with the ANC's 75th anniversary celebrations in Lusaka.

"We are prepared to consider Mr Mandela's release provided he renounces and abandons violence. This is the position as it stands at the moment."

It is a position that has not perceptibly shifted since President Botha announced in Parliament on 31 January 1985: The government is willing to consider Mr Mandela's release...on condition that he will not make himself guilty of planning, instigating or committing acts of violence for the furtherance of political objectives, but will conduct himself in such a way that he will not again have to be arrested."

Declining the President's offer, Mr Mandela replied: "Let (Botha) unban the people's organisation, the African National Congress....What freedom am I being offered while the organisation of the people remains banned?"

Despite an international campaign to secure Mr Mandela's release, the stalemate persists.

The only serious hint that Pretoria was prepared to consider unbanning the ANC emerged last year during ill-fated talks with the commonwealth Eminent Persons Group [EPG].

On that occasion, South African officials offered an encouraging response to EPG members who met Mr Mandela and described him to President Botha as a "man of peace". But only a few weeks later, the EPG's mission was scuttled by South African raids on

neighbouring Frontline States. Hopes for Mr Mandela's release vanished.

Yesterday Mr Vlok was reluctant to be pressed on Mr Mandela's future prospects. Some government officials are know to be worried that if the 68-year old revolutionary dies while still in jail, the townships may explode. Others appear concerned that an early release may also precipitate violence.

Earlier this week John Kane-Berman, director of the South African Institute of Race Relations, urged the government to stop "playing cat and mouse" with Mr Mandela's release. "Since the government's own figures claim that political violence has greatly dminished, it should feel confident that it can release Mr Mandela from a position of strength, and not because it has its back to the wall," he said.

Mr Vlok, a lawyer by training and a former private secretary to President John Vorster, would comment only that the issue was "sensitive". Most analysts here believe no breakthrough can be expected at least until the recently-announced general election for whites has been concluded.

On other issues, Mr Vlok was able to speak more freely. Although, as Minister of Law and Order, he is principally concerned with security measures — notably the state of emergency laws — the 75-minute interview was remarkable for Mr Vlok's insistence that the reform process was not dead.

In recent weeks the government's clamp-downs on freedom of expression have been widely interpreted as a signal of its abandonment of serious apartheid reform. But yesterday Mr Vlok placed the government's actions squarely in the context of the need for political stability to enable further reforms to proceed.

"You have to fight a revolutonary war on three fronts," he said. "Action by the security forces (to restore law and order) is one, but this is only part of it. You have to fight and win on the basis of good government, and by that we mean that you must look at the grievances of the people, the grievances that can be utilised by the activists and revolutionaries." These had to be addressed by the government.

"Thirdly, you must fight and win the war on the constitutional level. You must find the solution that is acceptable to the majority of the people."

Mr Vlok belongs to the wing of the government that wants blacks to participate in the political process on the same basis as "coloureds" (mixed race) and "Indians" - namely with their own Representative Council that might be given consultative powers.

Critics of the arrangement say it keeps real power in white hands, and that it falls a long way short of demands for one man, one vote. But Mr Vlok is convinced that such a scheme could enjoy majority black support were it not for pressures from radicals like the ANC.

"This is the problem the government has," he said. "People are afraid to come forward to talk to the government; this is the strategy of the ANC. They don't want the people to come forward to work out a constitutional settlement because they know that settlement wouldn't be acceptable to them."

Mr Vlok also insisted that the government was firmly committed to improving the lot of blacks. I had put it to him that the recent emergency curbs on protest were having the effect of suppressing opposition, not eradicating it. If ever the curbs were lifted, the trouble would surely return.

"That is why it is of the utmost importance that we must address the (people's) problmes in the meantime," he said. "That is why we are looking carefully at all the grievances of the people. If these people are not satisfied with living conditions in the townships and schools, you must address these grievances and put them right, otherwise the exact thing you mention will happen. When you lift (the curbs) you will have more problems."

He acknowledged that the government's attempts to "uplift" the townships had so far been somewhat limited. But citing the example of Mamelodi township, where a major government improvement programme has helped restrict unrest, he said: "It can be done. It will take time. It cannot be done overnight, because it is costing a lot of money. But we are addressing the grievances at the moment at a pace and in a co-ordinated way that has never been done before in this country."

[Remainder of item is carried in separate box under the subhead "The View From Pretoria"]

In his interview with *The Independent* yesterday - the first he has granted to a foreign correspondent - Mr Vlok addressed a number of controversial issues, including the detention of children.

"I want them out of prison. I've said it again and again I would like them to be at home with their parents, and I can assure you that if it's not absolutely necessary we don't want to keep them." Thumbing through his files, he went on: "I have evidence here of 11-year-old children who acted as magistrates in "people's courts" ...here's one guy, he's 11 years old, he mixed petrol with fish-oil, poured it over a person, struck a match and lit it. The person was killed."

I asked why the government, instead of bringing charges against such children, detained them without trial. "We cannot get witnesses who are prepared to testify against them," the minister said. "I don't like this situation, but we must act against these types of kinds...I think the blame must lie with the activists and the ANC for using these children for these purposes."

On the deaths of prisoners in detention (the Detainees' Parents Support Committee claims there have been more than 80 since 1963), Mr Vlok said: "I'm very much concerned about people dying in detention. I don't want anyone to die in detention, and if I can prevent it, I'll do it. There are strict instructions in this regard."

On the detention of black journalists like Zwelakhe Sisulu, editor of the newspaper *New Nation*: "We are careful not to arrest anybody if it is not absolutely necessary. I can't reply on the Sisulu case because it is sub judice."

On Western governments which meet with the ANC: "The height of hypocrysy. When terrorists somewhere else in the world do their deeds, some countries think they are allowed to bomb them indiscriminately in thickly-populated areas. Yet if we go over borders to get hold of proven terrorists, then we are criticised severely and sanctions are put up against us. I find this really abhorrent."

On the verdict of history: "I don't fear the future."

Half of Workforce at Beatrix Gold Mine Resigns

MB130848 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0843 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Johannesburg, Jan 13, SAPA — Almost half the black workforce at Beatrix Gold mine in the Orange Free State have resigned, Mr W.B. Evans, Gencor [General Mining Union Corporation] chief executive officer, said this morning. "We regret to announce that 3,900 (49 percent) of the 8,000 black mine workers at Beatrix Gold Mine have resigned and are proceeding to their homes following the disturbances at the week-end," Mr Evan said in a statement.

"The men have taken this drastic step presumably to distance themselves from potential further conflict in spite of strenuous efforts to persuade them otherwise by management and officials of the states concerned.

"It is estimated that it will take up to two months to replace these workers and the production loss may amount to 150,000 tons."

WEEKLY MAIL Carries 'Apartheid Barometer'

MB100803 Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL in English
9-15 Jan 87 p 4

["Apartheid Barometer"]

[Text] **December Detentions**

According to the Detainees Parents' Support Committee [DPSC], their advice office processed 253 reports of detentions during the month of December 1986, the majority being detentions leading up to and including the Christmas period.

At least 145 of these detainees (59 percent) were 18 years or younger. The youngest of these detainees was 12 years old.

During December, the DPSC processed 57 released detainees, two of them 11 years old. The ratio of detentions to releases during this period was almost 5:1. The DPSC stressed that these figures represented only those cases which they had dealt with — mainly in their Johannesburg offices.

The DPSC estimates that at least 8,800 people aged 18 or under were detained under the Emergency regulations, constituting about 40 percent of known Emergency detainees.

According to a document issued by the South African Council of Churches, over 40,000 people were detained during 1986.

Brain Drain

According to the Central Statistical Services, a total of 11,835 people emigrated from South Africa in the first 10 months of last year, while 5,983 people imigrated to South Africa — a net loss of 5,852. In the whole of 1985, 11,401 people emigrated, while 8,550 emigrated in 1984.

A total of 1,976 of the emigrants between January and October were professionally qualified people, while there were 948 professionals among the immigrants — a net loss of 1,028.

During the month of October, 1,068 people emigrated and 648 immigrated — a net loss of 420 people, compared with a net gain of 238 people during October 1985.

Insolvencies and Liquidations

A total of 701 companies were liquidated between August and October last year — 19 percent more than in the same period of 1984, according to the Central Statistical Services. Insolvencies totalled 1,171 during this period — 16 percent more than last year.

Prisoner of Conscience

Chris Tyawana, 25, Zwelethemba civic and youth leader, was detained under section 29 of the Internal Security Act on August 27 last year while attempting to draw money from his building society account. He is still being held.

Tyawana, a cousin of the late Eastern Cape United Democratic Front leader Matthew Goniwe, is an executive member of the Zwelethemba Youth and Civic Associations, a founder member and organiser of the South African Allied Workers Union in the area and a member of the Worcester UDF area committee. He has also played a key role in media training and has been active as a poet, playwright and cultural organiser. He had been in hiding for several months before he was detained.

Shortly before his detention he had, along with other community leaders, been engaged in talks with the local municipality.

He was arrested at a Cape Town Branch of the Allied Building Society after an Allied official assisted the Security Police by "hotcarding" him and then kept him talking until police arrived. A group called Allied Shareholders Against Apartheid [ASAA] was formed to campaign against Tyawana's detention, while the UDF met with Allied management. ASAA demanded the building society apologise, take action against the bank official responsible, compensate the Tyawana family and call for Tyawana's release. An advertisement in the form of a letter from Allied group MD [Managing Director] Alan Tindall fulfilled most of these conditions.

Banned Books, Publications And Objects

Stag Vol 6 no 1 (Viclen Promotions).

Unbanned:

Lenin Vol 1: Building the Party (Tony Cliff); The Communist Manifesto (Karl Marx and Frederick Engels); Lenin and the Russian Revolution (Christopher Hill); The Essential Works of Lenin (Henry H. Christman) (all four unbanned for posses-

sion): Up Against Apartheid, the role and plight of the Press in South Africa (Richard Pollack); Black Africa on the Move (Leslie Alexander Lacey); Traffic in Innocents (Charles Terrot); Bloedbad in Sharpeville (Ambrose Reeves); Upfront no 3 March 1986 (UDF Observatory and Claremont Area Committees); New Era vol 1 no 1 March/April 1986 (Grassroots Publications Rylands Estate); Amateur Photographer Supplement November 1; Zoom no 127 (Publicness, Paris).

Information Bureau Issues 12 Jan Unrest Report

MB130659 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0658 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Pretoria, Jan 13, SAPA — The following is the unrest report for the period 0001 to 2400 yesterday from the Bureau for Information, Pretoria:

"Unknown radicals threw a petrol bomb at a private vehicle in Kleinskool (Port Elizabeth) yesterday.

"A coloured man was slightly injured in the incident and only slight damage was caused to the vehicle.

"No arrests have yet been made.

"Other reported unrest-related incidents comprised isolated cases of arson and a single stone throwing incident.

"No injuries or arrests were reported."

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

12 Jan Press Review

MB120713 [Editorial Report]

SUNDAY TIMES on U.S. Sanctions

Johannesburg *Sunday Times* in English on 11 January says in a page 18 editorial: "The American sanctions campaign has traditionally been marked as much by opportunism as naivete: the final proof being the remarkable squirm which passes for the administration's stand on uranium imports. New regulations enforcing the congressional sanctions act will contain an exemption to allow American workers to continue processing South African-origin uranium for resale to non-U.S. customers. Some 1,000 American jobs are thus saved." "U.S. law-makers will fight for their convictions to the last South African job —but only as far as the first American. But then, nobody seriously suggested that nations chart their interests by their hearts instead of their heads."

Alternative Revolution for New Hope

On page 19 Philip Spies, executive director of the Institute for Futures Research at the University of Stellenbosch, says: "There is little doubt that South Africa is in a very, very late stage of a revolutionary process. The question is, however, what can we do about it? The answer: create an alternative revolution!" "The prerequisites for an alternative revolution are: Creation of a positive, realistic climate of hope and renewal. Before one has that one cannot play down what the current revolution is doing. We must turn the negative around to become positive." Spies proposes strategies "aimed at strengthening South Africa's ability to promote an alternative revolution in a logical and incremental manner." Key among these are: military strategies, economic strategies, alliances of moderates, a responsive political system, and symbols and images. "We must start to get people talking, to see one another's point of view and to allow the dynamics of interchange to develop and build a new reality and perspective."

THE SUNDAY STAR: Qwelane on Detainee Brutality

Jon Qwelane says in his "Just Jon" column on page 12 of Johannesburg *The Sunday Star* in English on 11 January: "So certain sections of white South Africa are aghast and tearing their hair out at what is happening in the detention cells of countries such as Zambia? Their whines of self-righteous indignation are based on false morality, if indeed one could call the premise of these new-found champions of human rights 'morality.'" Qwelane says the major reason for the "unconvincing howls of misplaced indignation is really that the people detained in Zambia and alleging ill-treatment were whites." "These latter-day crusaders for civil liberties and justice must then explain their deafening silence whenever far worse allegations of torture and police brutality have been made by South African detainees held in this country's police stations and prisons." "Until white South Africans learn to stop being hypocrites without equal and unqualifiedly accept theirs is the most unjust 'Christian and civilised' (self-proclaimed) Government in the Western world, many white South Africans will continue to seek and find solace in political points-scoring of a dubious kind."

P.W. Botha Only White Hope

Colin Legum says on page 14 that President P.W. Botha "is South Africa's only white hope of averting a further disastrous descent into full-scale revolutionary change. He might be a slender straw on which to pin one's hopes, but it is the only straw available. And he is by no means a broken reed." Legum says that Botha needs to know that he can count on an adequate measure of Afrikaner support. "He can be sure of the support of the majority of English-speaking voters." "Those who are dismissive of Mr Botha's concerns about the Right-wing backlash underestimate the possibility of Afrikaners turning against his leadership in favour of men who are pledged to resist any further retreat from apartheid. It will need no more than 25 to 30 percent of Afrikaners to reject Mr Botha's policies to undermine his political credibility and to force the need to choose a new leader." "No white leader seeking to excercise effective political power can ignore the reality of a major swing to the Right."

Differences in Black, White Education

On page 15 of *The Sunday Star* Jon Qwelane writes on opposing views on black education. Thamsanqwa Wilkie Kambule, ex-Soweto headmaster and mathematics lecturer at the University of the Witwatersrand, says that black education is inferior. "'Those who had a foretaste of education before Bantu Education was introduced know that what is being taught our children is bunkum.'" Kambule also questions why the sums spent on black education and white education are unequal. "'I was in teaching long before Bantu Education was introduced, and I saw the transition when Verwoerd's system came into force. I saw edu-

cation deteriorate hopelessly.'" Acting Director General of Education and Training Jaap Strydom says the per capita spending on black education "'is not yet the same (as for white education), but there is a formula that is in operation now working towards that,'" but "'you must remember this formula takes into account the qualifications of teachers, whether it is primary of secondary school education.'" Concerning people's education Strydom says: "'I can only say that if I analyse what people's education is, then I must say that "people" means Bantu and education is education. So people's education equals Bantu Education. That's scientific.'"

HNP Needs CP Alliance

Gary van Staden says on pages 1 and 2 of the "Review" section of *The Sunday Star* that the fact that HNP leader Jaap Marais "is able to attract sizeable crowds even to meetings in Johannesburg probably says more for the personal following of the man than any degree of support for his party. It is why Mr Marais remains a crucial factor in any right-wing alliance or amalgamation. Without him there would not be a HNP, but as long as he is around the CP will have to step warily around his ego." "The CP claims — with some justification — that both Mr Marais and the HNP have shot back to prominence in recent years only because they were riding the waves created by Dr Treurnicht and his party. The bottom line, however, remains. Without the HNP, Dr Treurnicht's party will remain a force in white politics, even if it loses a few seats on a split vote. Without the Conservative Party, Mr Marais is doomed to repeat the election setbacks of those pre-CP days."

'Humor' Needed for Elections

In his "Sullivan on Sunday" column on page 3 Peter Sullivan focuses on the elections asking: "Is it a good thing to have as many political parties as possible? I would think not. There are three major lines of thought in South Africa when it comes to the racial question: The National Party is doing the right thing; the National Party is moving too slowly; the National Party is abandoning white interests by moving too fast. With only three major parties in the campaign, the white electorate's feelings will be realistically tested." "The real election in South Africa should be between the National Party and all the people of the country. But perhaps the most necessary attribute we will all need through this coming election is a healthy sense of humour."

DIE VADERLAND on ANC-Communist Ties

Johannesburg *Die Vaderland* in Afrikaans on 9 January says in its page 12 editorial that it cannot find fault with the recently released U.S. report on the ANC. It does however, have doubts about the report's conclusion that the "communist section of the ANC will break away if the government is prepared to negotiate with the organization. That implies that the ANC consists of two clear distinct and clashing factions; that the non-communist faction does not share the socialist aspirations; and that the non-communist faction will prefer an alliance with the white government to one with its Moscow inclined colleagues." "It is a U.S. oversimplification to assume that the ANC will be prepapred for real negotiations of give and take, of concessions and compromise." "What Washington and other western governments do not realize is that negotiations with the ANC means negotiations with Moscow. And if that is the case the government should ask itself whether it cannot do better — even in its struggle against U.S. economic aggression — by directly bargaining with the Kremlin."

13 Jan Press Review

MB130646 [Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN Against Press 'Toadyism' of ANC

"Tragically, English-language newspapers seem to regard the ANC as an organisation that must be treated with respect and consideration, even if it perpetrates violence," says Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 10 January in a page 6 editorial. "The press toadyism towards the ANC is quite ridiculous since it presupposes that what is at issue is merely a difference of outlook, a kind of democratic jostling for power, with all sides being entitled to a fair hearing and the same consideration in the Press. That the ANC, by its own admission and by its own actions, is a revolutionary organisation is completely overlooked." *The Citizen* shares "the Government's view that the ANC and Mandela must abjure violence before the ANC can be unbanned and Mandela can be freed."

U.S. Loses Right to RSA Friendship

"From the moment sanctions were imposed, the U.S. forfeited its claim to be a friendly country and its right to have its views considered," says the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 12 January. "The expulsion of several American journalists was on the cards, given their hostility towards this country and the damage they were doing by their critical, often biased reporting." "Those who put forward the theory that the government's kragdadigheid [show of force] is merely electioneering do not appreciate the anger within the government at the way in which countries have dismissed its reform efforts and taken punitive action against South Africa. This is especially so in the case of the United States, which responded to reform by imposing sanctions, interferes directly in South Africa's affairs by providing huge sums of money not just for socio-economic programmes but for some dubious puurposes, and also seeks to force South Africa to accept a one man, one vote system and Black majority rule."

THE STAR on RSC's

Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 12 January says in a page 10 editorial that 1 July has been set for the inauguration of regional services councils. But, Soweto "which is to sit on the Central Witwatersrand RSC, enters the new arrangement with no means of raising adequate local funds — thanks to Government policy." The paper says there are serious aspects which need to be addressed: "first, the system still allows too much control by Pretoria"; "second, multiracial though the RSCs appear to be, they in fact entrench apartheid in that the policies of black, Indian and colored areas will continue to be determined by central Government." "Another aspect we would like to see changed is the fact that councillors on the RSCs will be appointed by local councils, not by public poll."

Academic Boycott too High Price to Pay

Maurice McGregor, retiring Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of the Witwatersrand, writes on the same page: "If academic boycott is an intervention designed to secure the

end of apartheid, the decision on whether to institute it must be determined by considering the size of the benefit to be obtained, the probability that boycott will significantly contribute to this end, and the price which must be paid." "Serious consequences will eventually be felt by society at large when long-term denial of access to recent advances in technology and knowledge will cause serious negative effects in such fields as agriculture, engineering and medicine. It would seem that the price of academic boycott may be considerable, while its value as a tool to effect change is probably negligible."

BUSINESS DAY on Defiant Botha Attitude

"Ever since May, President Botha's government has displayed an attitude of sullen defiance that leaves little or no room for political negotiation," says a page 4 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 12 January. "The electorate, by and large, has been ignored by the top leadership of government and National Party, being left instead to the ministrations of the discredited Bureau for Information — take it or leave it." "The state of emergency, bad as it may be is understandable; what is puzzling is the state of mind that seems to lie behind the suspension of the normal constitutional processes: an aggrieved, resentful aggression." "Possibly President Botha has been deeply wounded by the failure of the outside world and of his own people to recognise how far he moved away from Verwoerdian apartheid; possibly the security situaiton is more desperate than we know; possibly the Nationalists feel their power base crumbling beneath their feet. It is hard to be certain, although there are signs of all these things."

BUSINESS DAY on Press Restrictions

Ken Owen notes in his column on page 4 of *Business Day* that the law as it stood "forbade support for the ANC but permitted fairly widespread discussion in newspapers, magazines and books of the ANC and its activities." "On this basis, the ANC's actions and policies have been hotly debated, explained, defended and — often by this newspaper — most bitterly attacked. The SABC, various 'strategic experts' from the Afrikaans universities, newspapers, lecturers and writers have pursued that debate (that the debate is crucial to our future need not be argued; perhaps the principle political question in SA is the proper handling of subversive opposition)." However, two new police orders appeared, in response to the publication of UDF advertisements in newspapers, which wipe out "vast areas of public debate." "The SABC will no longer be able to give us its 'explanations' of ANC policy, though it may still be able to state that policy. Nor will it be possible to explain, say, the communist influences that go into making ANC policy. How ironic if the effect is to compel the SABC to confine itself to straight, factual reports!"

CAPE TIMES: NP-Labor Alliance in Jeopardy

A page 8 editorial in Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 9 January says: "President Botha's shelving of the President's Council report on the Group Areas Act and his pandering to the white racist elements in the country have placed the Labour Party in an untenable position. With 'reform' off the agenda, no warrant exists for Mr Hendrickse's continuing membership in the Botha Cabinet or the Labour Party's continuing association with the government. If Mr Hendrickse does not withdraw, it is hard to see how he could ever again face an electorate. But the political troubles of the Labour Party leader seem to be of little account to President Botha, intent as he is on restoring Nationalist unity and hegemony, at whatever cost to the country and to the Nationalist-Labour alliance."

SOWETAN: Rent Boycott Serious Issue

On page 7 in Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 12 January Aggrey Klaaste says in his "On the Line" column that "rent to us is an enormously important thing. Almost like breathing in and breathing out." "So the non-payment of rent is like defiantly throwing your pass into the fire at the height of a pass raid. It is an insane act. It is a very courageous thing. It is not being childish to boycott rent. It is one of the most serious things any black person will undertake." However, "we fear the Government is going to collect. They will demand their rent one day. Minister Chris Heunis has indicated this already. The Government will get tough. The newspapers have been muzzled from reporting everything, especially things relating to such dangerous delicate issues in the townships."

RAPPORT on ANC

"A subtle but nevertheless transparent attempt is being made to give the ANC respectibility," says a page 10 editorial in Johannesburg *Rapport* in Afrikaans on 11 January. The paper points to the publication of advertisements in South African papers this week as proof of that. "South Africans know, or should know what the true nature of the ANC is. Those who were behind the prohibited advertisements, were out to improve the public image of the ANC. It would therefore be strange indeed if the government were to allow some thing like that go by unhindered." However, the paper further says that "to polish the image of the ANC is dangerous. But to live in the delusion that its threat will disappear if it is not spoken about is just as dangerous."

RAPPORT: Right-Wing Alliance no Chance of Victory

A page 10 editorial in *Rapport* says that the forthcoming elections have sent the right-wing parties "scurrying to organize a united front against the NP." The paper says that it is self evident that the CP, the HNP and the AWB will fare better in an alliance than if they oppose each other. "It is possible that they may capture a few constituencies but even their leaders are not prepared at the moment to even suggest that they may win the election. *Rapport's* opinion polls also indicate strong support for the NP."

ZIMBABWE

Bulgaria's Karamanev Arrives With Delegation

MB111906 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 11 Jan 87

[Text] The Bulgarian deputy prime minister, Comrade Georgi Mitev Karamanev, has arrived in the country at the head of a 16-member delegation. The delegation was met at the Harare International Airport by the minister of trade and commerce, Comrade Oliver Munyaradzi, and the Bulgarian ambassador to Zimbabwe, Comrade Aleksandr Atanasov.

During the next 5 days, the delegation is expected to meet with their Zimbabwean counterparts to participate in the third session of the joint commission on economic, technical, and scientific

cooperation. Comrade Atanasov said this should culminate in the signing of cooperation agreements in agriculture, mining, and education.

Joint Commission Holds Session

MB121147 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] The third session of the Zimbabwe-Bulgaria joint commission began business in Harare today with delegates meeting in closed session in preparation for the official opening of the talks tomorrow. The first session of the commission was held in Harare in 1984. Comrade Georgi Karamenev, the deputy Bulgarian prime minister, is leading a 13-man high-powered delegation to the discussions. The Bulgarian team arrived in the country yesterday.